Raíces Latinas:
Vistos en la Comunidad
Introduction

- Raices Latinas
- Presenters
- Richfield/Bloomington area
- Representing Hennepin County
Overview

● Issues/Data Sources
● Housing Affordability
● Community Belonging
● Reflection
● Recommendations and Goals
Issues

- Housing Affordability
  - Resonates with People of Color
  - Fundamental Base
  - Safety

- Community Belonging
  - Authenticity
  - Growth
  - Safety
Data Sources

● Interview Questions
  ○ How did your parents’ or guardians’ housing choices affect your housing plans?
  ○ What do you need to feel seen in the community?

● Interview Participants
  ○ 18 Latino Community members age 14-24
  ○ From the Bloomington, Richfield and South Minneapolis area

Statistical Data

Percent of youth ages 14-24 living in housing cost burdened households by race/ethnicity

Source: Met Council CD-Research Analysis for Raices Latinas
Issue 1: Housing Affordability

- The importance of “Comfortable Living” within a community.
- Self-preservation and ability to show up.
- Functioning from a place of empathy and understanding—reflecting values.
- Safety—a grounded foundation for growth.
Humanization of the Issue: Important Quotes

● “Immigrant families are getting phased out to outer suburbs...BIPOC are the ones that most use the transit systems, but we’re getting phased out of cities that have access to transit systems...However, it is interesting that Minnesota just passed drivers licenses for all, regardless of immigration status.”

● “The Met council...should come down with the community and talk about it. With wages, most people aren’t able to pay because their salaries aren’t high enough, so they’re working 2-3 jobs.”

● A personal story...
“We’re taught that culture is something to be assimilated, but we need to teach that cultural diversity is a benefit to all communities, rather than a burden or division.”
Issue 2: Community Belonging

- Cultural diversity
  - Lack of community and feeling safe.
  - Cultural diversity is needed for all communities to succeed.

- Representation matters
  - Opens the door for communities to be seen.
  - Allows expression of culture to develop confidence and unity within a community.
Humanization of the Issue: Important Quotes

- “In order to feel seen in my community, it’s important to feel like I belong and am a part of my community. I need physical and emotional safety, which allows me to be myself. Being my authentic self has a great influence on my ability to find a sense of belonging, as well as acknowledging the desire to belong and feeling included.”

- I want my community to recognize all individuals and groups of people, which means putting in an effort to communicate and gather people together, to me that would show that every single individual’s insight and participation matters and means something...”
Vision Statements

Vision:

- Our community is empowered to educate each other especially our children and young people.
- Members of community are open minded and respectful of each other's backgrounds.
- Our region has a stable and interconnected community that supports its members.
Recommendations

- Prioritize public spaces, green/open spaces, and increase placemaking strategies, dedicated to cultural representation.
- Increase mixed-use development centers.
- More affordable housing options and housing types.
**Goals**

- The region’s residents have affordable housing close to the cultural connections they need.
- Local jurisdictions include spaces for community-developing programs and other ways to connect.
- Cities and regional systems demonstrate a sense of respect for diverse communities.
- Children live in affordable housing and supportive communities so they can have a stronger focus on school and education.