## Diversity from page A1

Expenses could run between and our leaders," said MCMR co\$5,000.\$16,000. Maxfield said chair Jim Hall at a recent FarmFriday that the achool district for the council meeting. And the two cities are expected to contribute a combined total of \$2,000.\$2,000. The NCCJ will work on funding to do its work here as well.

so contribute a combined total of \$2,000-\$2,500.

He didn't think specific approval from the board or coun-cils would be necessary because of the small amount. The school district has some money in a dis-trict diversity budget, for exam-ble, he said.

### Reaching deeper

Acaching deeper

Recruiting participants, facililators and leaders is important,
particularly since the MCMR
has had trouble drawing people
to some of its events.

Hundreds of people attended a
condiclight vigil honoring Martin Luther King and the Rainbow Recognition awards coremoave.

yet other programs which Yet other programs which becaused on diversity in the work-place and talking to parents about diversity weren't as widely httended and attracted predominantly school district employees or FTA representatives.

Maxifield earlier referred to low attendance at some ovents as a wakeup call for MCMR.

Now the MCMR Council plans to reach deeper in the Farming-tion-area.

#### NCCJ's role

NCCJ's role

Krichbaum said he was a
United Methodist Church minister in several communities which
at one time or another were integrated communities and the
became re-segregated because
peoplo didn't feel they were getting enough out of the schools or
other institutions to remain a
part of the community.

"What's your cut on this?"
Bohnsack asked Krichbaum. "Is
it simply you work with us
because that's part of your charter and you are funded already
or do you get a piece of our
action?"

Krichbaum said NCCJ "needs

action?

Krichbaum said NCCJ "needs to got some funding from some-place from somebody to do some-thing. We are talking to several foundations and companies about doing this kind of work in general."

#### Corporate donations

sa "a wakeup cail" for MOMR.
Now the MCMR Council plans
to reach deeper in the Farmington-area.
Other communities tend to
envy us and the support we
receive from our governments

What's Compuware deductions
"What's Compuware deductions
"What's Compusare deductions
"What's Compusare deductions
"What's Compusare deductions
"Farmington Hills-based Compusare is moving to Detroit.

Jack, "Brock replied, adding
Compusare made negative com-

ments about the city at a press conference.

Krichbaum said NCCJ has a

Krichbaum said NCCJ has a good relationship with Compuware. They would be really smart to de something for Farmington and Farmington Hills," Krichbaum said. He suggested NCCJ could talk to community relations people at Compuware. Maxfield said a Compuware contribution could be sert of their way of apologizing for the negative comments. While raising funds may prove a challenge, the benefits of

While raising funds may prove a challenge, the benofits of improving and increasing MCMR's efforts are well documented. Graduating seniors in the Farmington School District have said in one-year out surveys that the diverse community they grew up in was a help to them in college years.

"We're preactive, not reactive as so many communities are," Bolsen said. "It's hard to hate people you know."

"Our work at NCCJ involves transforming communities through institution change by empowering leaders so that all people will have access to our nation's opportunities and be included in its promise," according to its literature.

For 60 years, the group has worked with local businesses,

help create peaceful communities

ing.
"Our work at NCCJ involves

NCCJ offers programs geared to

shuck@o.homecomm.net

The National Conference for
Community and Justice defines
itself as a non-profit human relations organization founded in
1927. It was originally known as
The National Conference of Christians and Jews.

The NCC works with leaders
and people from different backgrounds to create communities of
justice where each person is treated with respect and understanding.

schools, police departments, religious congregations, community engencies and government offices to help people learn how to live and work in a culturally diverse society, according to its mission statement. NCCJ programs include:

■ Different People/Common Ground, which incorporates a series of small group dialogues about the human relations barriers which sometimes confound thest efforts to understand one another and live and work better together.

■ Interfaith Round Table — A "hallmark" program with roots in the metropolitan Detroit faith community. "Trialog programs with Muslims, Christians and Jews provide an opportunity for scholars, elergy and lay leaders to gain a greater awareness of and respect for different religious traditions."

■ Safe Streets — coordinated by

# Steering committee sets goals, timeline

BY SUE BUCK STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Benjamin Behnsack, Senior Pastor of Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills had questions about one of the written goals in the strategic planning proposal being drafted by the Farming-ton/ FarmingtonHillsMulticul-tural/Multiracial Council. While four goals were short.

turnavauttracial Council.
While four goals were short,
the fifth was noticeably longer
and seemed to reach conclusions
while others were more open,
Bohnsack said.
Though not most load as a fifth

Bohnsack said.

Though not mentioned specifi-cally, the subject was urban sprawl, referred to by some as "white flight" and others as "eccupational flight." Containing or controlling sprawl is a concern for many suburbs located in the in the first ring outside of Detroit

in the first ring outside of Detroit.

The original goal read: Work with regional groups to identify economic and demographic issues facing the metropolitan Detroit area. Appropriate connection needs to be established between the internal motivation of promoting integration as a way to make the community healthy and the need to consider external sentions which make it neathly had the need to consider external sanctions which make it increasingly difficult for citizens to move further and further beyond the current ring of sub-urbs."

urbs." Farmington Hills City Manager Steve Brock considered the word "sanctions" somewhat negative preferring "mechanisms" or "positive inducements or incentives." The simpler revised and an arminer revised and arminer revised and arminer revised and arminer revised and arminer revised arminer revised and arminer revised arminer rev

or incentives."
The simpler, revised goal is:
"Review regional, economic and
demographic data and trends,
which should be considered
because of their impact on our

because of their impact on our community."

If people keep running away from each other, the cost to extend services increases, said Farmington Schools Superintendent Bob Maxield.

Bev Papai, Farmington Community Library director, said recent cenaus results showed 55 percent of residents have lived in the same home since 1995.

"It's higher than I thought," she said. "When you are talking about inclusion where everyone feels welcome, you have a higher influx of people who need to be welcomed."

Farmington City Manager.

Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff said annual home sales in Farmington is about 5-7

percent. Test score information showed 25 percent of seventh graders hadn't attended fourth grader in the Farmington school district, Marfield said.

The Detroit-based National Council for Community Justice is working with a steering committee whose goal is to create a strategic plan to further the efforts of the Multicultural/Multimedial Council.

Here's a tentative timeline:

Through August 2002 — Finalize plans, engage "major stakeholders" like the city leading the strategic plans, engage "major stakeholders" like the city leading the strategic plans, engage "major stakeholders" like the city leading the strategic plans of the strategic plans will be conducted at a variety of summer and fall events, organization meetings, including school open houses and the Heritage Featival.

Det 25-26 will be the first strategic plans will be presented the Heritage Featival.

Aprin May 2003 — Results of strategic plan will be presented the the twill be held either at the Farmington Training Center or the Costick Activities Center.

Aprin May 2003 — Results of strategic plan will be presented to the Farmington and Farmington Hills City Councils and other interested community groups.

If the process is successful, the scale is uncovered which we heeped in volved won't be the

other interested community groups.

If the process is successful, the people involved won't be the usual characters' but those who aren't typically involved in community activities, Maxfield said. "(School) Principals are a good source to say, 'Here's some folks who will show some interest.' he said.

Linda West, NCCJ associate director, suggested conducting 'a stakeholders audit' at the onset. She recommended 'some type of data gathering which isn't too time consuming and won't break the bank.'

Focus groups can be used to

the bank."
Focus groups can be used to learn perceptions of diversity. "You will get people scattered around the community who are already engaged in the process," she said.
Maxfield suggested producing an invitational video.
NCCJ is not there to preach, West said. "It's up to Farmington to determine what it will look like in 10 years."

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7

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YOUR CHOICE: 50% to 71% OFF UNTIL SOLD OUT!



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