



# Conversation with Latine community members



On April 27, 2024, Office of Community Safety staff facilitated an event at Waite House for community members who identify as Latine. The conversation involved around 25 individuals including business owners, residents, and at least one youth. The meeting took place in Spanish.

After welcoming words from community leaders and a presentation about the concept of community safety centers, participants engaged in a conversation about what services are important in the community safety centers. Ideas were shared for both the South Minneapolis Community Safety Center and the Lake Street Safety Center.

For the South Minneapolis Community Safety Center these themes had the most support:

- Mental health
- Youth Services
  - Space for sports
  - Social enterprise for youth- get training and work
- Family addiction support

The following other resources or building uses were also discussed

- Multicultural space
  - Different communities represented
  - A space related to culture where community feels secure
  - Inclusive of all cultural communities in this area
  - Get to know the culture in the United States for newcomers
  - Information in different languages so people know their rights and obligations
- Community room
  - A space for community events and youth
  - More communication with the community
- Presentations for the community
  - Workshops for adults and youth
  - Develop community leaders

Other topics of note:

- Services and maintenance must be funded by the City of Minneapolis
- Safety and security came up frequently in the discussion
- Individuals wanted to feel secure making a police report without worrying about threats afterward
- Immigrants need support and a welcoming center

For the Lake Street Safety Center these ideas were shared:

- Assist people looking for work and connect them with companies who are hiring
- This center should focus on resources since it is temporary and smaller- not services
- The center should be permanent or all services should be in the permanent site
- Services related to domestic abuse and trafficking
- Workshops for the community – a gathering space