







# What Does DIVERSITY

Look Like in St. Louis Park?

The Human Rights Commission is a 13-member advisory commission to the St. Louis Park City Council. Twelve members are appointed by the City Council, including two youth members with full voting rights, and one member appointed by the St. Louis Park School Board

St. Louis Park

Experience LIFE in the Park







The photos in this publication are part of a 2007 community-building project called Our Town: Faces & Places. Coordinated by St. Louis Park Friends of the Arts.

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# What is the Diversity Lens?

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies.

It is the exploration of these differences in a safe, positive, and nurturing environment. It is about understanding each other and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual.







RESPECT. REFLECT. INCLUDE. INVITE. VALUE.

S POLITICAL BELIEFS NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS WORKPLACES RACE GEN

### SEXUAL ORIENTATION SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AGE

# A Commitment To Diversity

Led by the members of the city's Human Rights Commission, the City of St. Louis Park actively engages varied social, economic, religious and ethnic heritages through a variety of activities, initiatives and programs.



# Diversity & Perspective

Valuing individual diversity means reaching beyond stereotypical views of individuals and using the strengths and different perspectives that each person offers. The diversity lens, therefore, is not just a reflection of you or me, but the collective us in our community and all of our values.

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### ETHNICITY PHYSICAL ABILITIES RELIGIOUS BELIEFS POLITICAL BELIEFS

We hope you use the Diversity Lens as a reminder of the differences that make us unique, to start courageous conversations, and to instill in others the values of diversity.







## **Our Mission**

The Diversity Lens initiative was created by the Human Rights Commission to facilitate respect for diversity and the various world views represented by the citizens of St. Louis Park. Through open education, information dissemination and community interaction the initiative encourages each resident, business, city official, staff member, and visitor to appreciate that each person has developed a unique lens through which they view the world.

### For more information visit:

www.stlouispark.org/boards-commissions/human-rights-commission.html