

The Committee for a Better New Orleans (CBNO) is a nonprofit community organization that works to create equity and opportunity for all New Orleanians by:

1. Developing community leaders,
2. Fostering civic engagement
3. Advocating for open, effective and accountable government

CBNO continues the 48-year legacy of the Metropolitan Area Committee as a catalyst and convener, bringing diverse residents and leaders together around the vision of restoring New Orleans to its rightful place among the great cities of the world.

CBNO's primary focus is to increase effective and equitable citizen participation in civic decision-making by working with government, business and neighborhoods. Research has shown that meaningful citizen participation improves the effectiveness and efficiency of government, reduces social inequities, generates economic activity and opportunity, reduces blight, and improves health, public safety and other quality of life indicators.

"With its diverse board and connections to so many segments of our city, CBNO has unique capacities to bring people together and build consensus on solutions to our toughest problems. It brings to life the philosophy that we all have to work together to make New Orleans great."

- BILL HINES, MANAGING PARTNER,
JONES WALKER

CBNO PROGRAMS

CBNO accomplishes its mission by integrating **issue-based campaigns** like blight eradication, the Latino Community of Interest, citizen participation, participatory budgeting, and water management with **civic leadership programs** like the Bryan Bell Metropolitan Leadership Forum and the Diana Lewis Citizen Participation Awards.



**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
PROGRAM MODEL**



**BRYAN BELL METROPOLITAN
LEADERSHIP FORUM**



**COLLABORATION FOR
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

“So many times we find ourselves caught up in the details of the crisis at hand. CBNO is one of the organizations that operates from the big picture, tying all the loose ends together to create long-term solutions in an effort to keep the crises from happening in the first place.”

- KIM M. BOYLE, SENIOR PARTNER, PHELPS DUNBAR

CBNO ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Some examples of our work and the recent results it has produced include:

- Successful advocacy for the passage of the City Planning **Neighborhood Participation Plan (NPP)**, which ends “planning by surprise” and implements an “early notification system” that ensures development benefits businesses, neighborhoods and residents.
- The development of nearly 2,500 of the city’s pre-eminent leaders in government, business, education, and media over the last 48 years through the **Bryan Bell Metropolitan Leadership Forum**.
- The publication of a **Neighborhood Association Manual** to assist neighborhood leaders in establishing open, accountable and effective neighborhood organizations. The manual, now in its third printing, has helped launch more than 10 new neighborhood organizations and strengthen the practices of at least a dozen more.
- The completion of the **Latino Community of Interest** research survey – the largest of its kind in the city – to assess the attitudes towards government and civic engagement and needs and priorities of the fastest growing segment of the city’s population. This has now been followed by a second survey of Latino Health issues, identified as a top concern in the first survey, with specific recommendations for improving health outcomes among Latinos as well as other underserved residents.

