



Minnesota Council of Nonprofits 2018 Public Policy Agenda



The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits informs, promotes, connects and strengthens individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector at the local, state, and federal levels. MCN's public policy agenda is designed to support and advance the role of the nonprofit sector, promote equity and inclusion, encourage civic participation, and advance tax and budget decisions that provide the resources necessary to support diverse community needs and expand economic security.

Support and Advance the Role of the Nonprofit Sector

- Work to shift values around the budget, bonding, and taxes to create the political will to better support nonprofits and the organizations they partner with every day.
- Maintain and strengthen tax policies that enhance the nonprofit sector's ability to maximize its partnership with the community, including tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations and tax incentives for charitable contributions that treat donors and contributions equally.
- Protect the decision-making autonomy and self-governance authority of nonprofit organizations.
- Oppose implementation of inappropriate nonprofit fees assessments from government entities.
- Monitor and review proposals for alternative organizational structures and funding mechanisms.
- Affirm nonprofits as desirable employers and promote employment policies that take into consideration the unique circumstances of nonprofit organizations while supporting the communities nonprofits partner with.

Support a More Inclusive and Equitable Minnesota by Addressing Structural Racism and Economic Disparities

- Promote public policies and budget choices that expand opportunity, narrow racial disparities, and improve the economic well-being of low- and moderate-income Minnesotans.
- Support fair and sustainable tax systems that raise adequate revenues to fund essential investments in broader prosperity and thriving communities.
- Support inclusive immigration policies that contribute to more welcoming communities and a stronger economy.
- Support proposals that enhance the ability of small, culturally specific nonprofits, especially those led by people of color and indigenous community members, to maximize capacity and build partnerships.

Encourage Civic Participation

- Support improvements to structures and systems of democracy in order to expand access to voting and civic engagement opportunities for all Minnesotans, including voting rights restoration, automatic voter registration, early voting, improved judicial selection, and others.
- Support efforts for an effective and inclusive 2020 Census, where all are counted in Minnesota.