



August 20, 2020

The Honorable Angie Craig
The Honorable Tom Emmer
The Honorable Jim Hagedorn
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
The Honorable Betty McCollum

The Honorable Ilhan Omar
The Honorable Collin Peterson
The Honorable Dean Phillips
The Honorable Tina Smith
The Honorable Pete Stauber

Dear Members of the United States Congress representing Minnesota,

Minnesotans and people across the country are experiencing incredible levels of hardship. **Our communities face unacceptable and bleak realities:** hunger, housing instability, and job loss have increased dramatically since the pandemic hit. While previous policy actions like the CARES Act were vital, they have proven insufficient, and the situation is worsening.

The number of Minnesotans turning to food assistance through SNAP has increased 14 percent. More households are falling behind on rent, with 16 percent of Minnesota households in that boat. And the unemployment rate is higher than at any time during the Great Recession. We need action.

As a community of nonprofits, we are practiced at and driven to taking action to create a more just and thriving world. The global pandemic and community uprisings against racial inequity are revealing more of the injustices that have always been present where nonprofits live and work. Failure to respond quickly and effectively will deepen racial inequity and result in a deeper and longer-lasting recession.

There is a narrow window of opportunity for lasting and meaningful change, to define this new era as one where our communities can be successful in welcoming a future that allows all to thrive.

You are members of one of the most important decision-making bodies in the world, with the unique power to pass a strong and swift policy response to meet this critical moment. Please act now.

Sincerely,

Minnesota Budget Project, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, and the undersigned organizations,

A.H. Wilder Foundation Community Mental
Health and Wellness
Ability Building Community
Accessible Space
Accord
African Immigrant Resource Center
Aliveness Project
AMAZEworks

American Composers Forum
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
Anna Marie's Alliance
Anodyne Artist Company
Apple Tree Dental
Arc Northland
ArtiCulture

2314 University Avenue West, Suite 20, St. Paul, MN 55114
Phone: 651-642-1904 | Fax: 651-642-1517
www.minnesotanonprofits.org | info@minnesotanonprofits.org

Regional chapters in:

- Central Minnesota
- Northeast Minnesota
- Northwest Minnesota
- Southeast Minnesota
- South Central/Southwest Minnesota
- West Central Minnesota

Attention Deficit Awareness of MN, Inc (A-D-A-M)
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Gr
Cancer Legal Care
Canvas Health, Inc.
CarlsonSV
Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis
Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization
Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center
Child Care Aware of Minnesota
Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota
Children's HeartLink
Christ's Children Ministries
CHUM
Coalition of Asian American Leaders
Commonweal Theatre Company
Community Dental Care
Dads Make a Difference
EdAllies
Education Explosion
Ely Winter Festival
Employment Enterprises, Inc.
Frank Theatre
Germanic-American Institute
Gifts for Seniors
GiveMN
Great River Children's Museum
Greater Twin Cities United Way
Growth & Justice
Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota
HACER
Hammer Residences
Health Access MN
Hearth Connection
Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA)
Highpoint Center for Printmaking
Hmong American Partnership
HOME Line
House of Hope, Inc
HRx, Inc.
HumanistsMN
Hunger Solutions Minnesota
Immigrant Development Center
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

ISAIAH
Itasca Youth for Christ
Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas
JustUs Health
Kaposia, inc.
Laura Baker Services Association
Legal Services Advocacy Project
Leisure Education for Exceptional People, Inc.
LISC Duluth
Local Initiatives Support Corporation - LISC
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers
Minnesota Alliance Boys & Girls Clubs
Minnesota Alliance With Youth & Minnesota Youth Council
Minnesota Asset Building Coalition
Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance
Minnesota Center for Book Arts
Minnesota Citizens for the Arts
Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
Minnesota Community Action Partnership
Minnesota Council on Foundations
Minnesota Doctors for Health Equity
Minnesota First Community Solutions
Minnesota Head Start Association, Inc.
Minnesota Housing Partnership
Minnesota Psychiatric Society
Minnesota Social Service Association
Minnesota Women of Today
MN Chapter of American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
MN Licensed Practical Nurses Association
MNSec
Money for Two Workshops, LLC
Montessori Center of Minnesota
Ms.
NAMI Minnesota
Neighbors Inc
Northeast Contemporary Services, Inc.
Northern Starz Theatre Company
Northwest Community Action
Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless
Park Square Theatre
Partnership Resources, Inc.
Pawsitive Perspectives Assistance Dogs
People Serving People

PHASE

Pillsbury United Communities
pollinator friendly alliance
Portico Healthnet
Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Co
Prepare + Prosper
PRG, Inc.
Progress Valley
Range Transitional Housing, Inc.
Reach for Resources, Inc.
Red Wing Arts
Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for
Empowerment
Rivers of Hope
Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank
SEIU MN State Council
SELF International, Inc
Senior Services Consortium of Ramsey
County/Meals on Wheels of Ramsey County
SEWA-AIFW.ORG
Sexual Violence Center
Sherburne County Area United Way
Sherburne History Center
SOAR Career Solutions
Social Venture Partners MN
Somali American Social Service Association
Southeast Community Organization
Southeast Seniors
St. Paul Community Literacy Consortium

St. Stephen's Human Services
Stillpoint Engage
TakeAction Minnesota
Teamsters Service Bureau | Minnesota Job
Partners
Textile Center
The Arc Minnesota
The Center for Victims of Torture
The Reporters Inc.
The Wildlife Science Center
This is Medicaid Coalition
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.
TSE, Inc.
Tubman
Udac, Inc.
Unite Cloud
United Way of Steele County
Urban Homeworks, Inc.
Valley Friendship Club
Valley Outreach
Voices for Racial Justice
West Central Initiative
White Bear Center for the Arts
Wildwoods
Will Work For Recovery
Winona County Developmental Achievement
Center
Women's Advocates