Ways to Stay Involved in MN
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY &amp; ACCESS</th>
<th>EDUCATION &amp; ETHICS</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY</th>
<th>PUBLIC POLICY</th>
<th>CHAPTER CAPACITY</th>
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<td>Increase racial diversity in the fundraising profession in MN</td>
<td>More actively and deliberately attract members to educational offerings</td>
<td>Maintain large chapter status &amp; strong retention</td>
<td>Greater participation &amp; accessibility for all philanthropic sectors</td>
<td>Increase the percentage of members understanding AFP's public policy and advocacy efforts</td>
<td>Thoughtful, planful &amp; transparent succession planning</td>
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<td>Develop adaptive changes to establish a continuous culture of diversity</td>
<td>Identify and remove barriers to participation</td>
<td>Increase member engagement and satisfaction</td>
<td>Committee has completed an assessment of format, audience, and barriers to participation</td>
<td>Establish a public policy and advocacy structure</td>
<td>Deepen key relationships and keep communication open with other organizations</td>
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<td>Recruit more volunteers</td>
<td>Attendees report a welcoming &amp; inclusive experience</td>
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<td>Attendees report a welcoming &amp; inclusive experience</td>
<td>Implement a communication and education engagement strategy for public policy and advocacy efforts</td>
<td>Consistently communicate chapter successes and value to all membership</td>
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<td>Become a trusted expert for charitable policy decisions in Minnesota</td>
<td>Determine ideal organization size and budget</td>
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The goal of AFP-MN’s Public Policy committee is to:

1. Inform the chapter board and members of important public policy issues related to philanthropy and fundraising.

2. Educate chapter members on the role they can and may wish to have with respect to direct advocacy with legislators.

3. Encourage involvement in government relations at the local, state and federal levels.

4. Coordinate local government relations programs that help educate elected officials on the importance of the nonprofit sector and the impact their proposals, programs, policies, laws, etc. may have.
Join the Public Policy Committee

It’s easy!

Visit www.afpminnesota.org
and fill out the committee interest form!
Public Policy at MCN

Advocacy is a powerful catalyst for change!
MCN supports nonprofits and Minnesota’s nonprofit sector to be a powerful voice in the public policy process.

• Provide training to help nonprofits grow their advocacy muscle

• Serve as a resource to policymakers on the nonprofit sector

• Advocate on issues that impact the nonprofit sector, such as tax incentives for charitable giving

• Through MCN’s Minnesota Budget Project, advocate for tax, budget, and economic policies that expand opportunity and economic security
Together or on your behalf, the past 30 years MCN has:

- In 1999 MCN was the driving force behind the adoption of a Minnesota non-itemizer charitable tax deduction, which by 2016 had 204,000 Minnesotans using this provision as they made $350 million in contributions, at a cost to the state of $8.8 million. Today, 62% of Minnesotans are non-itemizers, primarily people with incomes less than $75,000.

- In 2009, MCN built support to raise the audit threshold for registered charities to $750,000 from $350,000 to assure cost effective and appropriately targeted accountability. As a result, the state's 650 small charities within this margin save an average of $8,000 each, totaling $5.2 million, while still ensuring that 98 percent of charitable expenditures are subject to full audits.

- In 2011, MCN shepherded through legislation creating conformity in financial reporting to the Minnesota Attorney General and the IRS. As a result, over 9,000 registered charitable organizations avoid duplicative and conflicting calculations in reporting to the state and the IRS.

- In 2014, in partnership with the Minnesota Council on Foundations and the Greater Twin Cities United Way, MCN successfully defeated proposals to expand fees on property-tax exempt organizations and to allow government entities to require their own members be appointed to nonprofit boards of directors.

- In 2016, MCN’s Minnesota Budget Project staff provided essential technical assistance based on their expertise in tax policy to the Minnesota Asset Building Coalition (MABC), supporting their effort to gain increased state funding for volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) sites. These sites help thousands of Minnesota taxpayers access state and federal tax credits that increase economic stability. The 2016 tax bill passed by the Minnesota Legislature allocates an additional $800,000 to free tax preparation sites and related financial capability services.
Strengthen Charitable Deduction

Minnesota nonprofits want lawmakers to encourage more giving

Sign-On Letter to Strengthen Minnesota's Charitable Deduction

230+ organizations signed on!

LETTER: Charitable deductions benefit our community

Letters published throughout the state!

Rep. Drew Christensen • @RepChristensen • 8h
I'm proud to be a coauthor! #mnleg

MN Nonprofits @SmartNonprofits
Thank you for your support of HF 3464 that would strengthen MN's charitable deduction. @RepOleoff, @Masin4Rep, @RepChristensen, @BarHaleyMN, & @RepTonyAlbight. #mnleg

Media coverage!

Engaging legislators!

Testifying at the Capitol!
Ways to Advocate – Individual, Org, Coalition

- Educate Public
- Nonpartisan Voter Education
- Organize Communities
- Lobbying Exceptions
- Regulatory Efforts
- Educate Legislators
- Educational Conferences
- Litigation
- Encourage Voting
- LOBBYING
- Research
- Skills Training
- Change Corporate Behavior
Engagement Opportunities

High Engagement
• Meet with elected officials
• Testify before a committee
• Be an active member of a coalition

Medium Engagement
• Write a letter to the editor

Low engagement
• Social media
• Sign a petition
• Share a fact sheet
What’s next?

• Stay informed - subscribe to newsletters

• Build your “advocacy muscles” – MCN trainings (Essentials Conference 8/15)

• Build relationships with elected officials – on your own, MCN events

• Join others – MCN, MCF, AFP-MN (Public Policy Committee), etc.

• Census 2020, Charitable Deduction, Unrelated Business Income Tax
Stay Informed!

https://www.minnesотanonprofits.org/subscribe

Select a Newsletter
- Smart Nonprofits
- Minnesota Grants Alert
- Budget News and Tools
- South Central/Southwest MN Regional Update
- Central MN Regional Update
- Northeast MN Regional Update
- Events Forecast
- The Nonprofit Advocate
- Southeast MN Regional Update
- Northwest MN Regional Update
- West Central MN Regional Update

Interest Area/Position
- Executive Director
- Communications & Technology
- Finance & Legal
- Advocacy & Public Policy
- Human Resources & Supervision
- Leadership & Governance
- Fundraising & Grantseeking
- Evaluation & Planning
- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
Stay Informed!

http://www.mnbudgetproject.org/subscribe
Questions or Ideas?

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To join AFP’s Public Policy Committee, contact Tammy Tesky Ausen at 651.641.6676 or TTeskyAusen@thinksmall.org or visit AFP-MN’s website!