dear friends and supporters,

Since the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) was founded in 1987, geography has been one of our key challenges. Minnesota is the 21st largest state by population with 5.5 million people, and 12th largest by land area. How can we make MCN’s services, advocacy and information available to nonprofits throughout the State?

We know that the time and expense of travel creates barriers to participation. While it has always made sense to locate a central office in the Twin Cities, MCN members have long expressed the desire for closer connecting points and opportunities for organizations in different parts of a very large state.

The accessible solution has been to create regional offices, staffed by regional coordinators with advisory committees of regional nonprofit leaders. We opened our first regional office in Duluth (1999), followed by Mankato (2007), St. Cloud (2011) and Rochester (2014). At long last, regional offices were launched in Moorhead and Bagley (near Bemidji) in 2015, achieving the long-term goal of holding events and convening nonprofit members throughout the state.

Our organizational strategy is to aggregate and engage a large nonprofit membership. This strategy has the ability to increase the sector’s effectiveness, influence and bargaining power as part of a long-term base building process. Now, with 2,100 dues-paying members and a wide array of philanthropic partners, we feel that MCN has realized a network-effect stage of market participation (the welcome phenomenon whereby a good or service becomes more valuable when more people use it).

We are proud that MCN has realized growth every year in our membership, web traffic, event attendance and policy work. This growth makes MCN a more valuable support organization for Minnesota’s nonprofit sector, and a valued partner for philanthropy and government. Members direct our services so that we can both respond to member needs and offer leadership for the sector through strong member-representation on the MCN board.

As recent events across the state have made manifest, we recognize that a critical test for MCN’s board and membership going forward will be to make certain these resources are used to include the breadth and depth of the nonprofit sector to engage to address inequities in our communities.

sincerely,

Jon Pratt  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits

Mary Jones, MCN Board Chair  
Chief Advancement and Program Officer  
YWCA of Minneapolis
2015 HIGHLIGHTS

2015 MCN Annual Conference, in partnership with Minnesota Community Action Partnership

- 1,220 attendees
- 620 organizations represented
- 260 attendees from Greater Minnesota
- Keynotes by Vu Le and Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson
- 76 resource exhibitors

Coffee with Congress and Legislative Listening Sessions

- Senator Al Franken
- Congressman Keith Ellison
- Congressman Rick Nolan
- Congressman Tom Emmer
- Congressman Collin Peterson
- Congressman Tim Walz
- Representative Ben Lien
- Representative Paul Marquart
- State Senator Kent Eken

Community and Nonprofit Awards

Nonprofit Mission & Excellence Awards
- Mixed Blood Theatre Company
- Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless
- Opportunity Partners
- People Incorporated
- Washburn Center for Children

Virginia McKnight Binger Unsung Hero Awards
- Tom Johnson, St. Paul
- Wilbur Neushwander-Frink, Mankato

Nonprofit Leadership Awards
- Michele Anderson, Springboard for the Arts
- Jaylani Hussein, CAIR Minnesota
- M. Beth Fagin, St. David’s Center
mcn members in 2015

In 2015, we served

**2,414 total nonprofit members**
with diverse focus areas, ranging from youth to the environment, finances to community and more.

**618 Greater Minnesota nonprofit members**
representing 25% of our membership and making us a truly statewide organization.

**301 associate members**
who provide valuable products, services and expertise and are strong supporters and partners of nonprofits.

In 2015, MCN nonprofit members accessed

**15,287 free member job postings**
on MCN’s online job board, promoting vital staff and board openings to more than 75,000 visitors per month.

**763 complimentary resource publications**

Additionally, MCN opened two offices in west central and northwest Minnesota in 2015, strengthening our presence and impact across the state! Our statewide expansion was made possible with support from the Blandin Foundation, Northwest Minnesota Foundation and West Central Initiative.
You build a better world. We build stronger nonprofits.

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits strives to develop programming that enables nonprofits to fulfill their missions for a better world.

Through workshops, networking events, conferences, webinars and more, we bring people together from across the state and support our strong, vibrant sector.

5,722 attendees participated in 124 workshops, 22 webinars and 7 conferences.

In 2015, MCN awarded $92,000 in scholarships to 595 event participants.

As a result of attending an MCN event in 2015, participants:

“...organized around a first-ever strategic plan.”

“...started a nonprofit, wrote our mission statement and bylaws and collaborated with the city and other nonprofits.”

“...learned how to write grants and found new funding possibilities for our food shelf.”

“...revamped our website, increasing clarity, consistency and branding.”

76% of attendees took a positive action as a result of attending an MCN event in 2015.

“...implemented enhanced networking opportunities for our members to better serve their students.”

Greater Minnesota Highlights

+ 618 Greater Minnesota member organizations

+ 77 Greater Minnesota events, including networking opportunities, grantwriting clinics, leadership workshops and more

+ Greater Minnesota Summit in Duluth, attracting more than 125 attendees
Thank you to MCN’s funders for supporting a thriving nonprofit sector across the entire state:

Hugh J. Anderson Foundation
F.R. Bigelow Foundation
Blandin Foundation
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation
Otto Bremer Foundation
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
Cargill Foundation
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Corporation for National and Community Service
Deluxe Corporation Foundation
Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation
Ecolab Foundation
Ford Foundation
General Mills Foundation
Initiative Foundation
Marbrook Foundation
Mayo Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Minnesota State Bar Association
Morgan Family Foundation
Laura Jane Musser Fund
Northland Foundation
Northwest Minnesota Foundation
Ordean Foundation
The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation
Rochester Area Foundation
The Saint Paul Foundation
Stoneman Family Foundation
Target Foundation
West Central Initiative
Willmar Area Community Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation

In 2015, MCN welcomed its second AmeriCorps VISTA cohort. These 12 VISTA members managed communications and outreach, developed programs, recruitment volunteers and gained nonprofit leadership skills while serving in community-based nonprofits across the Twin Cities.

MCN’s VISTA program was made possible with support from the Corporation for National and Community Service.
## Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,811,717</td>
<td>$2,080,049</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>219,972</td>
<td>213,132</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Temp Restricted Grants</strong></td>
<td>(382,327)</td>
<td>$509,748</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,591,745</td>
<td>1,866,917</td>
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### Income

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grants</strong></td>
<td>$980,526</td>
<td>$778,244</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dues</strong></td>
<td>703,486</td>
<td>665,465</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Events</strong></td>
<td>914,288</td>
<td>787,285</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Member Services</strong></td>
<td>192,993</td>
<td>165,420</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td>70,262</td>
<td>184,634</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>2,861,555</td>
<td>2,581,048</td>
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### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program</strong></td>
<td>$2,246,663</td>
<td>$2,015,389</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Education</td>
<td>973,672</td>
<td>873,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Public Policy &amp; Civic Engagement</td>
<td>291,274</td>
<td>360,776</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Member Services</td>
<td>470,323</td>
<td>404,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Other Program Services</td>
<td>511,394</td>
<td>375,682</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Support</strong></td>
<td>381,505</td>
<td>419,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fundraising</strong></td>
<td>126,230</td>
<td>127,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>2,754,398</td>
<td>2,562,327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clark Biegler  
Policy Analyst

Andrew Bocher  
Emerging Nonprofit Specialist

Susie Brown  
Public Policy Director

Mark Buenafior  
Operations and Database Coordinator

Christina Casey  
Nonprofit Services Assistant

Shelly Chamberlain  
Director of Operations and Human Resources

Jesse Chang  
VISTA Program Coordinator

Catherine Dahlberg  
Inclusion and Engagement Resource Specialist

Kate Fridley  
VISTA Leader

Ben Horowitz  
Policy Advocate

Maria Isley  
Northeast Chapter Regional Coordinator

Becky Johnson  
Finance Manager

JoLynn Langaas  
Northwest Chapter Regional Coordinator

AmyJo Lennartson  
South Central/Southwest Chapter Regional Coordinator

Nan Madden  
Minnesota Budget Project Director

Paul Masiarchin  
Program Director

Shannon McCarville  
Program Coordinator

Laura Mortenson  
Communications Manager

Ann Mosey  
Southeast Chapter Regional Coordinator

Joe Pederson  
West Central Chapter Regional Coordinator

Jon Pratt  
Executive Director

Rinal Ray  
Public Policy Advocate

Sondra Reis  
Associate Director

Emily Steinmetz  
Central Chapter Regional Coordinator

Caitlin Swanson  
Communications Coordinator

Paul Vliem  
Development and Project Manager

Caitlin Warner  
Office Assistant

John Wurm  
Membership and Communications Director

Mary Jones, chair

Bobbie Cordano, vice chair

Rodolfo Gutierrez, vice chair

Sheila Smith, secretary

Susan Strandberg, treasurer

Robert Benes

Cameron C. Bloom Kruger

Amy Brugh

Susan Estee

Tracy Fischman

Kenza Hadj-Moussa

Lynn Hunt

Cathy Maes

Angie Miller

Kathy Potter

Lori Saroya

Sue Speakman-Gomez

Jarell Skinner-Roy

Chris Taylor

Ernesto Velez

Melinda Wedzina

Fartun Weli

YWCA of Minneapolis

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts

Three Rivers Community Action*

Lake and Pines Community Action Council, Inc.*

Duluth Children’s Museum

Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank*

Prepare + Prosper

Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

Happy Dancing Turtle*

Loaves and Fishes

Community Action Duluth*

Access of the Red River Valley*

Bush Foundation Fellow

HousingLink

College Possible

Minnesota Historical Society

Centro Campesino*

Feeding Our Communities Partners*

Isuroon

*indicates a board member from Greater MN

minnesota council
of nonprofits

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info@minnesotanonprofits.org