



HINDU SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

(A Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Organization)

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March 19, 2023

To:

Committee Chair

Thank you for taking the time to hear the issues about SEWA-AIFW's Cultural Service Center project. This initiative allows SEWA-Aifw to acquire, renovate, and equip the SEWA-AIFW Cultural Service Center in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. Not only will this project create a safe space for the South Asian communities in Minnesota, but it will also increase SEWA's capacity to assist, train, and provide overall support to these groups.

I believe this foundation is deserving of this grant because SEWA has provided invaluable services to low-income and limited English-speaking South Asians in Minnesota since 2004. Another reason I believe Sewa-Aifw is deserving of this grant is that I know the money will go directly back into the communities it serves. I appreciate that Sewa-Aifw provide free and bilingual health screenings, SNAP outreach, Meals-on-Wheels, mental health counseling, youth sports and leadership programs, and support to survivors of sexual or domestic violence. In recent years SEWA has expanded services and has consistently increased the number of people served yearly. By creating the SEWA-AIFW Cultural Service Center, SEWA can continue to grow, meeting the needs of our South Asian communities.

I am thrilled to hear about your proposal for the Non-Profit Capital Investment Project Grant to support SEWA's purchase and renovation of the Cultural Service Center. I value SEWA's dedication to providing such indispensable services to the South Asian communities of our district.

Again, congratulations on this work. I look forward to supporting this project.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Gokul Upadhyay

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