



February 20, 2023

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Jobs and Economic Development committee,

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) is the largest statewide association of nonprofits in the country, representing over 2,300 member organizations across the state. Through MCN, nonprofits join together across interest areas to work on issues of common interest to all. MCN works to inform, promote, connect, and strengthen individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector.

**MCN strongly supports SF 1390, the Nonprofit Infrastructure Grant Program**, which would provide \$3 million for each of the next two fiscal years for capacity-building grants and technical assistance to small, culturally-specific organizations that primarily serve historically underserved cultural communities.

Currently, rural-based, small, and/or culturally-specific nonprofits receive disproportionately less state funding than larger, established, and/or Twin Cities-based nonprofits. See [MCN's "Equity in State Grantmaking" report](#).

Nonprofit organizations deliver a large portion of state-funded services, many through grants from the state. Partnering with the state via grants is not feasible for many nonprofits, many of which are deeply connected in the communities they support. **By providing capacity-building grants and technical assistance to some of these nonprofits, the state is building the number and types of nonprofits with whom it can partner, increasing the impact of its dollars to communities all across the state.**

We are grateful that Propel for Nonprofits has the experience and expertise to administer the Nonprofit Infrastructure Grant Program, and we urge you to support the program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "marie ellis".

Marie Ellis  
Public Policy Director  
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