

April 1, 2025

Dear Senator Bobby Joe Champion (59, DFL) President of the Senate,

On behalf of the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation (GSDC), a regional nonprofit economic development organization (EDO), I am writing to express my strong support for Senate File 2948 (SF 2948), which seeks to appropriate funds for the One Community Alliance to support economic and workforce development initiatives in Central Minnesota. As a resident and employer in Saint Cloud, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that One Community Alliance has had on our community.

One Community Alliance has been instrumental in fostering economic growth by implementing programs that promote entrepreneurship, workforce development, and community engagement. Their initiatives have led to the creation of new businesses, job opportunities, and a more vibrant local economy. By investing in One Community Alliance through SF 2948, the state would be supporting a proven organization dedicated to enhancing the economic well-being of Central Minnesota.

Furthermore, the GSDC serves as a fiscal host for One Community Alliance. GSDC provides essential accounting and financial services, ensuring transparency and accountability in all financial matters. Additionally, GSDC offers administrative and technical assistance, which has been crucial in helping One Community Alliance grow into a sustainable nonprofit organization. This partnership exemplifies the collaborative efforts within our region to drive economic development and social progress.

I urge you to support SF 2948 and advocate for its passage in the Minnesota State Senate. Funding One Community Alliance will not only bolster economic development in Central Minnesota but also serve as a model for community-driven initiatives across the state.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued service to our community.

With gratitude,

NeTia Bauman

NeTia Bauman, CEcD CEO & President Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation