



# UNITED

we walk forward in power



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings Brothers and Sisters of the African Heritage Community,

As we look back on Y2025, we do so with gratitude, courage, and concern. Our African immigrant and refugee community in Minnesota is facing a season of uncertainty unlike any we have seen in recent years. Families are anxious. Neighbors are afraid. Many are choosing silence over visibility and fear over fellowship because the realities of immigration enforcement and widening disparities feel close to home.

We acknowledge this truth without fear and denial. Yet in these moments, we are not alone. We are not without hope. Our strength has always been in community, faith, resilience, and our commitment to keep striving with perseverance.

CMAH has worked tirelessly to become a bridge. We have advocated, educated, convened, collaborated, and connected. We have partnered with organizations, faith leaders, legal advocates, and service providers to ensure our community knows its rights, understands its options, and can access trusted resources when help is needed. We have created spaces for dialogue, healing, and empowerment, and will continue to do so moving forward to strengthen our resolve and contributions to the state of Minnesota.

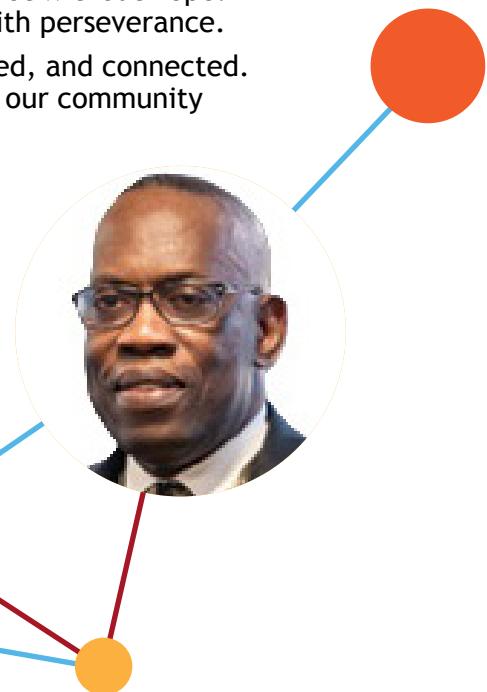
Let us remain steadfast and embrace the new year with hope, wisdom, and action. Let's stand together to keep our communities strong. Our journey is not alone; history shows we have endured storms and risen. This season will not define us; our unity will.

Thank you, and may we continue to stand firm as one African Heritage community, in solidarity beyond our cultural boundaries.

Warmly,



**Wayne Doe, Chair**  
Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage



## CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR.....	INSIDE FRONT COVER	05
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.....	01	14
ETHNIC COUNCILS STATUTE.....	01	15
MISSION & LANDSCAPE.....	02	

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Community Members, Partners, and Public Leaders,

In 2025, Minnesotans came together in grief following the tragic killing of Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, and the shooting of Senator John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette. These acts of violence shook our state and underscored the urgent need to uphold civility, accountability, and nonviolence in our democratic process. They reminded us that public service and civic engagement must be grounded in respect for human life and shared responsibility.

This challenging year was marked by economic uncertainty, extended legislative negotiations, and heightened concerns about equity, access, and public trust. Amid these conditions, our mission remained consistent: to ensure that African American and African Immigrant communities are informed, engaged, and positioned to influence public policy decisions that directly affect their lives.

CMAH prioritized meaningful engagement with state leaders to elevate community perspectives and strengthen trust between government institutions and the communities we serve. We supported residents in navigating policy systems and expanded access to civic participation through public forums, leadership development opportunities, and issue-based convenings. Our approach emphasized that democracy functions best when communities are organized, informed, and connected across generations.

Youth leadership was a central focus of our work. Civic learning and policy engagement efforts reinforced the importance of cultivating future leaders. Persistent disparities in housing stability and wealth accumulation remained critical concerns. And we continued to address education access, public safety reform, and culturally responsive health and wellness initiatives. This included mental health, maternal and infant outcomes, and access to care for immigrant communities.

CMAH remains committed to collaboration, equity, and lasting systems change. Together, we will continue working toward a Minnesota where opportunity, safety, and justice are shared by all.

Sincerely,



**Linda Sloan, Executive Director**  
Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage

2025 FINANCIAL REPORT.....	16
COUNCIL MEMBERS.....	17

A report to the legislature as requested by Minn. Stat. § 15.0145, Subd. 8

### MINNESOTA STATUTE 15.0145 ETHNIC COUNCILS

Subd. 8. Reports. A council must report on the measurable outcomes achieved in the council's current strategic plan to meet its statutory duties, along with the specific objectives and outcome measures proposed for the following year. The Council must submit the report by January 15 each year to the Chairs of the committees in the House of Representatives and the Senate with primary jurisdiction over state government operations. Each report must cover the calendar year of the year before the report is submitted. The specific objectives and outcome measures for the following current year must focus on three or four achievable objectives, action steps, and measurable outcomes for which the Council will be held accountable. The strategic plan may include other items that support the statutory purposes of the Council but it should not distract from the primary statutory proposals presented. The biennial budget of each council must be submitted to the Legislative Coordinating Commission by February 1 in each odd-numbered year.



# UNITED

## we make legislative progress



### OUR MISSION

The Minnesota Legislature empowered the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage to ensure people of African Heritage fully and effectively participate in and equitably benefit from the political, social, and economic resources, policies, and procedures of the State of Minnesota. Generally, the Council is charged with the responsibility of:

- Advising the Governor and the Legislature on issues confronting people of African Heritage;
- Advising the Governor and the Legislature on statutes, rules, and revisions to programs to ensure people of

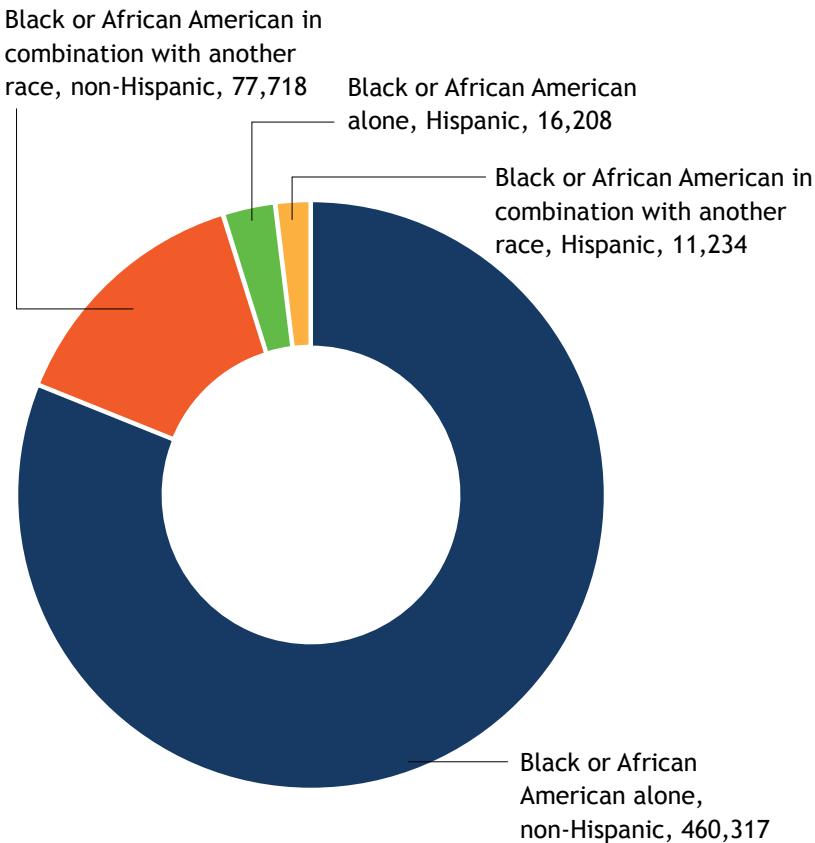
African Heritage have access to benefits and services provided to people in Minnesota;

- Serving as a liaison to the federal government, local governments, and private organizations on matters relating to people of African Heritage in Minnesota;
- Implementing programs designed to solve problems of people of African Heritage when authorized by statute, rule, or order; and
- Publicizing the accomplishments of people of African Heritage and their contributions to the state.

## LANDSCAPE OF THE AFRICAN HERITAGE COMMUNITY

The African Heritage community is the second-largest population group in the State of Minnesota and consists of African Americans and African immigrants. The community includes approximately 565,477 individuals, representing 9.7% of Minnesota's total population. This figure includes individuals who identify as Black or African American, either alone or in combination with another race.

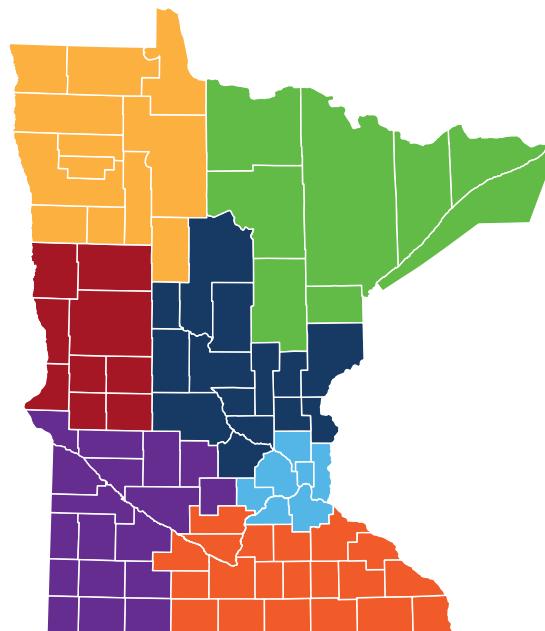
### 2024 BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION = 565,477



Minnesota's African Heritage population is highly diverse. The five largest population groups are African Americans (U.S.-born), Somali, Ethiopian, Nigerian, and Liberian communities. Members of the African Heritage community reside throughout the state; however, the majority are concentrated in the greater Twin Cities metropolitan area. The highest concentrations are in Hennepin County, Ramsey County, and Dakota County.

### BLACK MINNESOTANS 2024 REGION OF RESIDENCE

● - Twin Cities	386,296 (2024)
Greater Minnesota	90,229 (2024)
● - Central region	36,357 (2024)
● - Northland region	4,649 (2024)
● - Northwest region	2,176 (2024)
● - Southern region	33,878 (2024)
● - Southwest region	6,950 (2024)
● - West Central region	6,219 (2024)



## Population Growth & Workforce Trends

The African Heritage community is widely recognized as a significant growth driver for Minnesota's economy. This status is supported by several key demographic and migration trends, including:

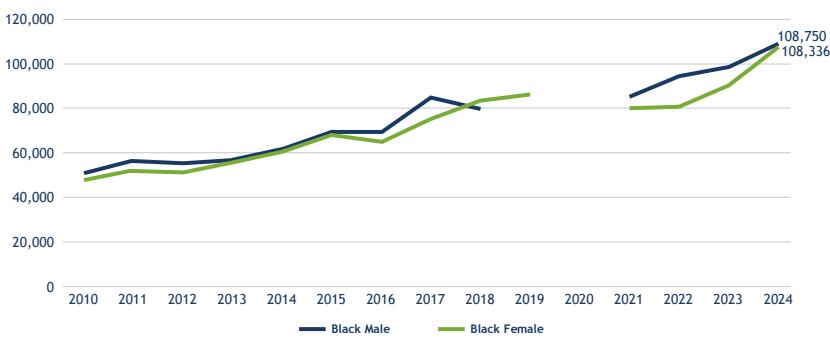
- A relatively young and working-age population, totaling approximately 287,462 working adults;
- A substantial number of Black births, with an estimated 103,000 births recorded since 2010; and
- A continued influx of Black immigrants, totaling approximately 79,000 individuals between 2010 and 2023.

Together, these trends contribute to the long-term sustainability and expansion of Minnesota's labor force.

## Economic Impact & Entrepreneurship

The African Heritage economy in Minnesota is estimated to be valued at approximately \$18 billion, encompassing earned income and residential real estate assets. Of

## NUMBER OF BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN WORKERS AGE 16 TO 64 YEARS, 2010-2024, MINNESOTA



Sources: MN State Demographer, US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, MN Compass, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development, Wilder Foundation.

this total, residential real estate holdings are valued at approximately \$6 billion. As of 2023, the community's consumer buying power exceeded \$10 billion, highlighting its substantial influence on the state's economy.

Entrepreneurship represents a critical component of this economic impact. Minnesota is home to approximately 48,500 Black-owned, non-employer businesses, accounting for roughly 11% of all non-employer businesses statewide. This figure has nearly doubled since 2017, reflecting rapid growth in Black entrepreneurship.

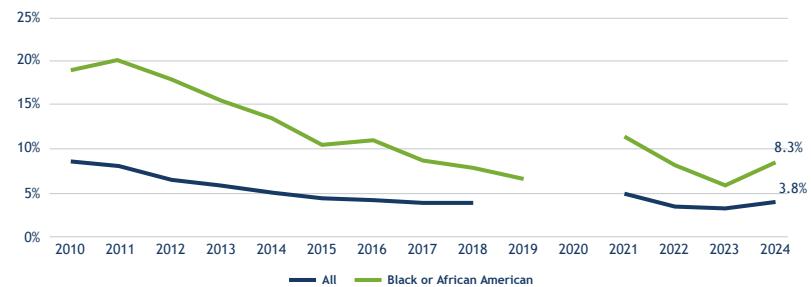
In addition, there are 2,110 Black-owned businesses with paid employees. These firms collectively:

- Employ 33,129 workers; and
- Generate a total annual payroll of approximately \$924 million.

## Workforce Contribution & Economic Output

More than 167,000 African Heritage individuals participate in Minnesota's workforce. Collectively, their labor generates an estimated \$58 billion in economic output and supports approximately 300,000 jobs statewide, demonstrating the community's broad and far-reaching contribution to Minnesota's economy.

## UNEMPLOYMENT BY RACE, 2010-2024





LEGISLATIVE POLICY & ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

UNITED  
we make powerful policy change



Our legislative policy and engagement initiatives focused on critical areas for Minnesotans of African Heritage. In 2025, we:

- A. Amplified the voices and concerns of the communities we serve
- B. Empowered active community participation in public policy affairs
- C. Promoted culturally based health and wellness strategies
- D. Helped build relationships between African American and African Immigrant communities

### COMMUNITY VOICES & CONCERN

In 2025, the Minnesota Legislature and the Walz-Flanagan administration worked to address a structural imbalance in the state's economic forecast and establish new measures for combatting public fraud and waste. Bipartisan negotiations to pass a new state budget extended through the end of 2025 Regular Legislative Session and into a June Special Session.

The Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage focused on the importance of community voice in Minnesota's public decision-making, especially during times of economic uncertainty. We corresponded and met with state lawmakers and leaders about African Heritage community priorities. As constituent concerns about budget cuts, immigration challenges, and program rollbacks grew more acute, we strove to advance community knowledge, participation, and relations within the state's governance systems.

### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC POLICY AFFAIRS

CMAH leveraged advisory, advocacy, convening, and learning resources to empower African Heritage community participation in Minnesota's public policy developments. We organized and supported conferences, hearings, and town halls workshops to advance community priorities.

**African Heritage Day on the Hill** – Working with the African American Leadership Forum (AALF), African Career Education and Resources Inc. (ACER), The Links Incorporated (Minneapolis-St. Paul and Greater Twin Cities Chapters), and other partners, CMAH gathered community members at the Capitol on March 5, 2025. Our collective goal was to speak with state leaders and actively engage in the legislative process.

**African Heritage Youth Summit** – From listening sessions and policy workshops to leadership trainings and storytelling development, CMAH worked closely with young Minnesotans of African Heritage to prepare them for meaningful civic engagement. These efforts culminated in a day of rallies, legislative meet-and-greets, and testimony sessions that highlighted youth perspectives on education equity, mental health, and community investment. Partners in these intergenerational efforts included ACER, AALF, Duluth Public Schools, KIPP Minnesota Public Schools, NAACP Minneapolis, and West Africa Collaborative. Also included were Minnesota legends Mr. Spike Moss and Dr. Mahoud El-Kati.

**Black Housing and Wealth Creation** – CMAH worked with Senate President Bobby Joe Champion, Representative Hulda Momanyi-Hiltsley, and community partners to organize three public hearings on the African American Affordable Homeownership and Workforce bill (SF2423/HF2507). This legislation was heard in the Senate Housing Committee, Senate Jobs Committee, and House Housing Committee. Unfortunately, the bill was not included in the omnibus housing budget that the Minnesota Legislature passed in May 2025.



## THE MINNESOTA HOMEOWNERSHIP GAP

The Minnesota homeownership gap is real. It disadvantages Black children and families. It will remain a priority for us.



### HOMEOWNERSHIP DISPARITY

More than 70% of Minnesota households own their home, but less than 30% of Black Minnesotans are homeowners. Housing fuels wealth gap between homeowners and renters and contributes to the intergenerational/structural transmission of inequality.



### INSTABILITY WITH BLACK MINNESOTANS

Black Minnesotans experience housing instability at twice the rate of the average Minnesotan. While 30% of all Minnesota households pay more than they can afford for their housing, 60% of Black Minnesotans experience this cost burden.



### IMPACT ON BLACK CHILDREN

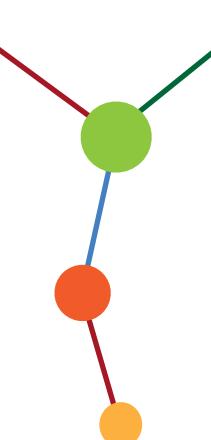
Black children endure this hardship at double the statewide rate. About 67K or almost half of Black children in Minnesota live in households that spend more than 30% of monthly income on housing expenses. Minnesota's homeownership gap contributes to a system of segregated schools and neighborhoods, particularly with Black families heavily concentrated in high-poverty and high-crime areas.



### BLACK COMMUNITY LOSSES

When comparing homes and neighborhoods of similar quality in Minnesota, majority Black neighborhoods are undervalued by \$48K per home or about 23% below valuations in minority Black neighborhoods or non-Black neighborhoods. Nationally, the devaluation of Black homeownership costs Black communities about \$162B in cumulative losses.

Sources: AECF Minnesota Data February 2025; Brookings November 2018, September 2021, December 2022; MHP March 2024; MN State Demographer March 2025; Orfield and Stancil June 2017, February 2022; Urban Institute January 2021, April 2024



**Education Equity Priorities** — CMAH endorsed child savings accounts, ethnic studies, full-service community schools, non-exclusionary discipline, and teacher diversity as cultural and economic measures for closing opportunity gaps. While the final education budget bill made some cuts to disability and equity programs, African Heritage constituent feedback emphasized the importance of educator diversity, multilingual support, student access, and targeted after-school and post-secondary prep programs.

**Public Safety and Restorative Justice** — CMAH supported civil rights proposals advanced by the End Slavery in Prisons coalition and the Justice for All coalition. We also worked with Black Lives Matter Minnesota to raise awareness about local and statewide efforts to advance reparative justice. In fall 2025, CMAH Vice Chair Carl Crawford and civil liberties partners passed a rule change proposal (regarding cooperation with independent investigations of use-of-force incidents) through the Public Safety Advisory Council of the

Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST Board).

**Trainings and Workshops** — CMAH facilitated trainings to aid community participation in the state's administrative rule making and legislative change processes. This work supported cultural and government entities, e.g., Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council, Interagency Rules Committee, Miss Juneteenth State Pageant, etc. We informed community and policy stakeholders alike about principles for increasing African Heritage public participation.

**Public Participation Model** — Used the world over in public participation plans, the IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation model continues to inform CMAH's advocacy and training efforts, helping to understand community concerns and aspirations; facilitate two-way communications; and ultimately implement what has been collectively decided.

## IAP2'S SPECTRUM OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION





# UNITED

we achieve greater justice

## CULTURALLY BASED HEALTH & WELLNESS STRATEGIES

CMAH continued our support for holistic, culturally based health and wellness strategies. While lifting the standpoints of marginalized communities, we drew attention to the ways health and wellness are socially and historically determined as matters of biology and physiology.

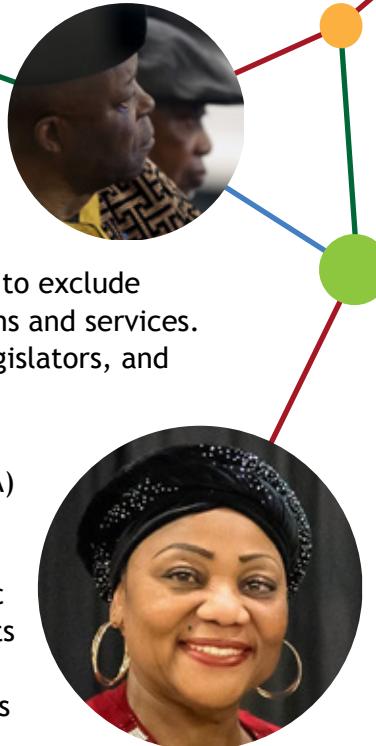
**MAAFPCWDA Implementation** — After the landmark passage of the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act in 2024, CMAH consulted with community, government, and practitioner stakeholders about challenges and opportunities regarding the Act's implementation. CMAH carried this work as a member of the MAAFPCWDA Statewide Work Group. In the latter capacity, we strove to center cultural integrity, family preservation, harm reduction, racial equity, and systemic transformation in the state's work of implementing the law.

**Mental Health and Wellness** — CMAH engaged community conversations and proposals regarding mental health challenges, especially given the impact on African Heritage children and families. These engagements taught us that African Americans and African Immigrants in Minnesota experience historical/intergenerational trauma and immigrant/migrant hardship as part of the social determinants of mental health. They provided valuable lessons in our quest for culturally based health and wellness strategies.

## 2025 MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS ENGAGEMENTS

**Health Costs and Disparities** — CMAH relayed community concerns about actions and proposals that would roll back federal and state commitments to health equity, including cuts to Medicaid as well as efforts to exclude immigrants from eligibility in public programs and services. We consulted with the Governor's Office, legislators, and other stakeholders.

- In spring 2025, CMAH partnered with the Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA) to advocate for immigrant inclusion in Minnesota's health programs.
- During summer and fall, we invited public officials to present updates on the impacts of federal developments on disability services, food assistance, and health costs in Minnesota.



**“Exploring Immigration’s Impact on Migrant Mental Health”**- Restoration for All, Inc. and Progressive Individual Resources, Inc.

JAN  
25

APR  
19

JUN  
7

JUN  
24

JUL  
11

**“Abusua: A Discussion About Black Family Mental Health”**- Black Family Blueprint

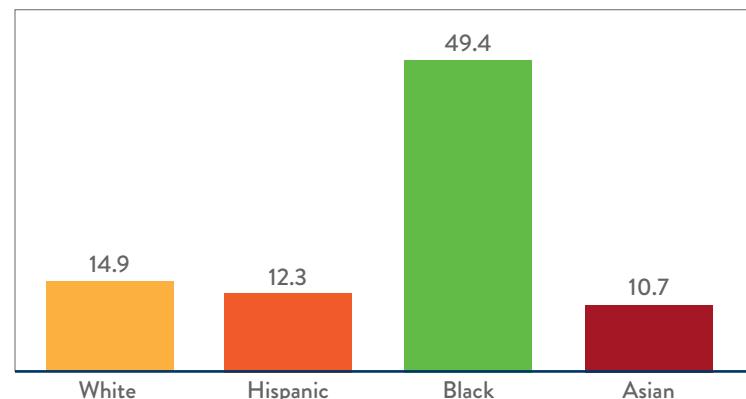
**“17th Annual Women United to Win”**- Cultural Wellness Center and National Empowerment Group, Inc.

**“Multi-Faith African Leadership Roundtable”**- Restoration for All, Inc. and Progressive Individual Resources, Inc.

**“11th African Mental Health Summit”**- Restoration for All, Inc. and Progressive Individual Resources, Inc.

**Racial Disparities in Maternal and Infant Health (Mortality and Morbidity Issues)** – CMAH’s work includes addressing the considerable disparities facing Black women and children. According to recent research, Black women are more than three times as likely as White women to experience a pregnancy-related death. Furthermore, Black women are at significantly higher risk for severe maternal morbidity. We must do all we can to overcome these egregious statistics.

#### PREGNANCY-RELATED MORTALITY PER 100,000 BIRTHS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY, 2023



Sources: IAP2's 2024 [1999] Spectrum of Public Participation. Tina Nabatchi 2012 “Putting the ‘Public’ Back in Public Values” in Public Administration Review, Vol. 72, Iss. 5, pp. 699-708.

#### AFRICAN AMERICAN & AFRICAN IMMIGRANT RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING

CMAH endeavored to grow healthy dialogue, learning, and relations across Minnesota’s African American and African Immigrant communities. Our board identified this work as a top goal at the beginning of the year. CMAH led and partnered on cross-cultural engagements and supported intercultural learning and partnership coordination within our constituency. Our work included listening sessions with

the Freedmen Descendants of Minnesota, presentations by Minnesotans for American Community Survey and 2030 Census, and town hall meetings focused on African Heritage bridge-building.

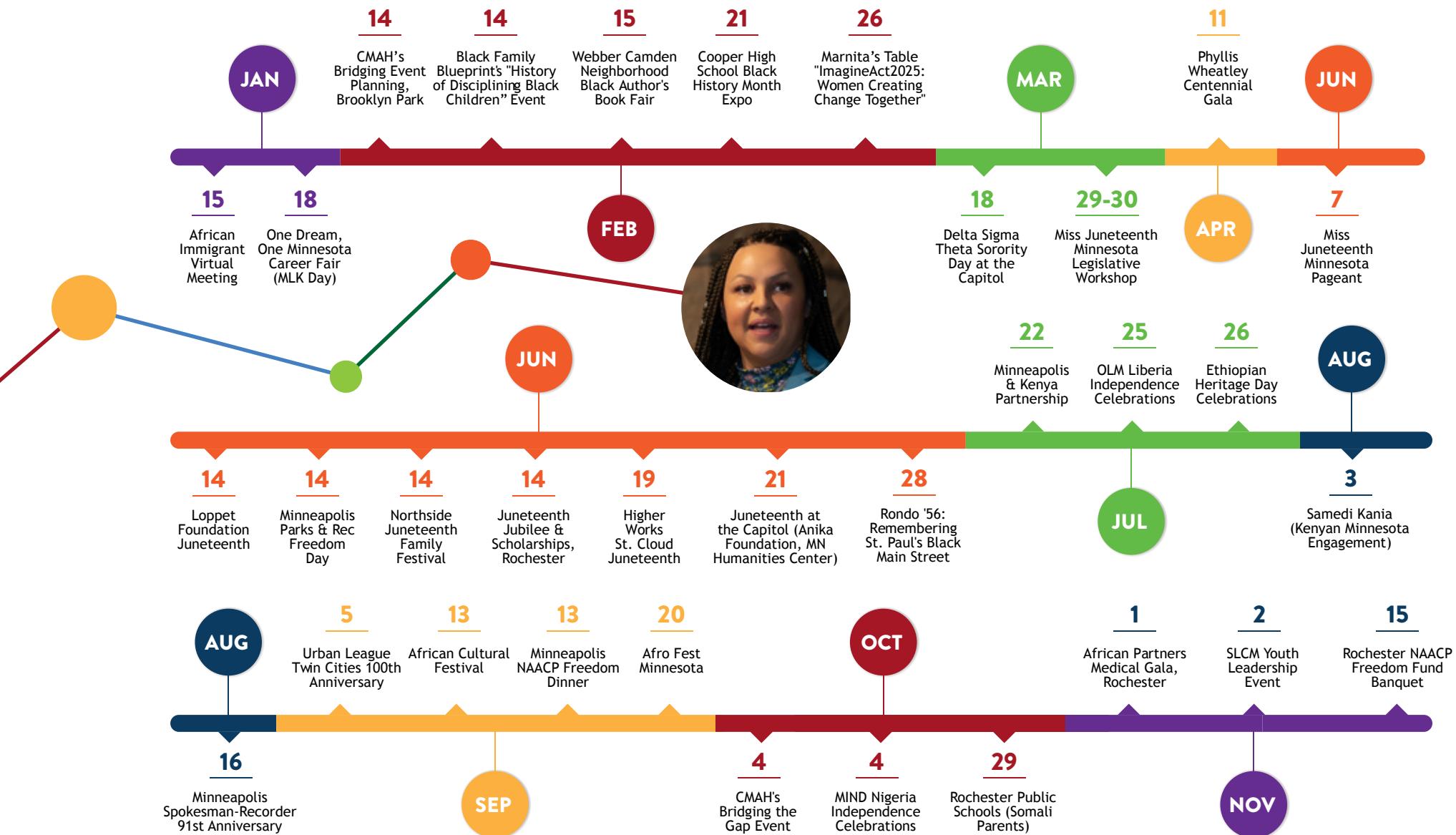
**Bridging the Gap: Shared Roots, Diverse Journeys** – Historically, people of African Heritage have always found ways to bridge gaps and work together, even under the most difficult of circumstances in the United States, Caribbean, and Africa. CMAH convened a highly successful bridge-building meeting on October 4, 2025, in North Minneapolis. To prepare, we consulted and coordinated with African American and African Immigrant leaders and organizations throughout the year. “Bridging the Gap” meeting highlights included:

- Remarks and contributions from a cross-sector of academic, civil rights, industry, nonprofit, religious, and youth leaders.
- Active listening, intentional learning, and storytelling as ethical practices for building cross-cultural relations.
- A call for public initiatives that leverage Pan-African connections and values, e.g., educational programs about African and Black histories, festive events that celebrate African and Black arts/cultures, and policy affairs that advance shared African Heritage priorities in employment, entrepreneurship, healthcare, and housing.

**Cross-Cultural and Cross-Regional Connections** – CMAH deepened existing community ties and extended efforts to build new ones. We continued our work with legacy organizations (e.g., NAACP, Urban League, etc.), increased connections with cultural organizations (e.g., Ghanaian, Kenyan, Senegalese, Somali), and reestablished our links in Greater Minnesota (e.g., Duluth, Mankato, Rochester, St. Cloud).

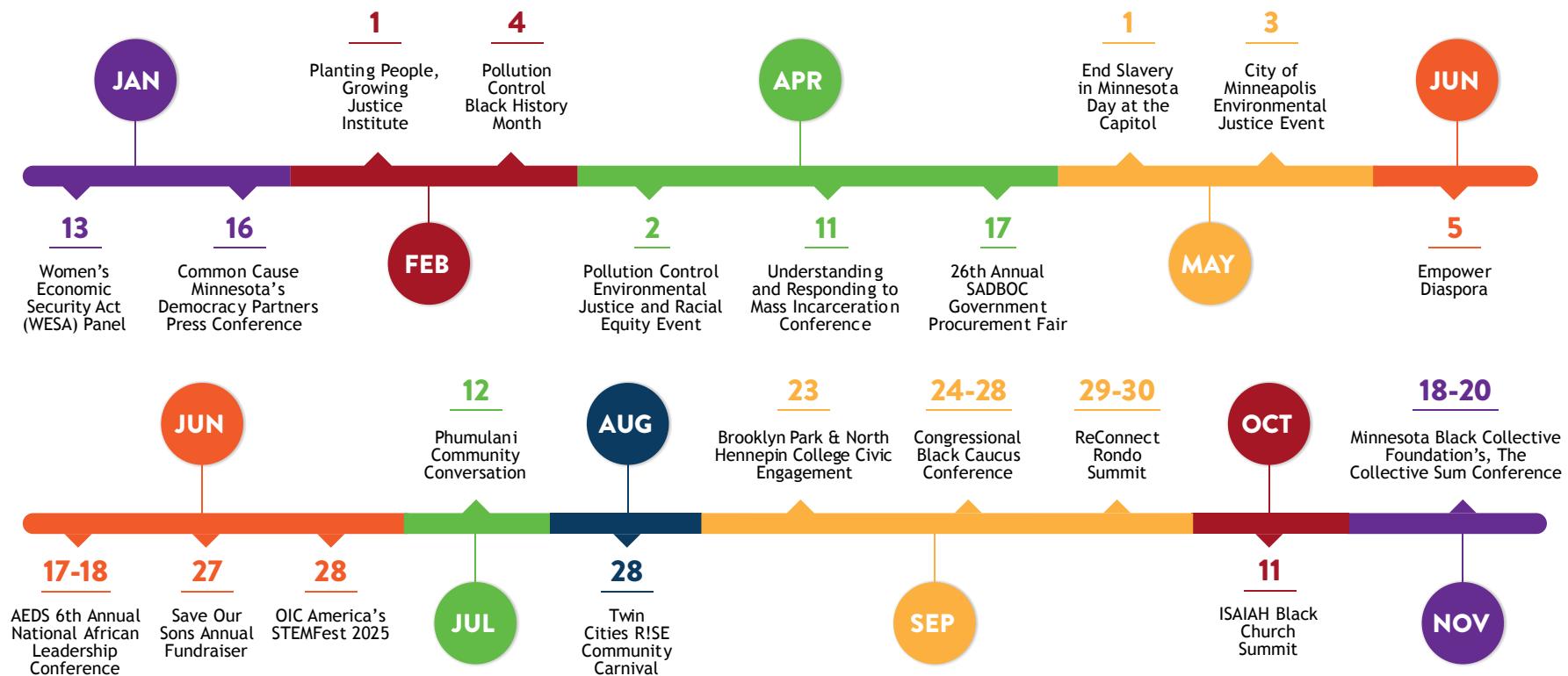


## CULTURAL CONNECTIONS & ENGAGEMENTS



**Multi-Issue Public Engagements** – CMAH sought to build collaborative work relations with constituents across intersecting public issues and subject disciplines.

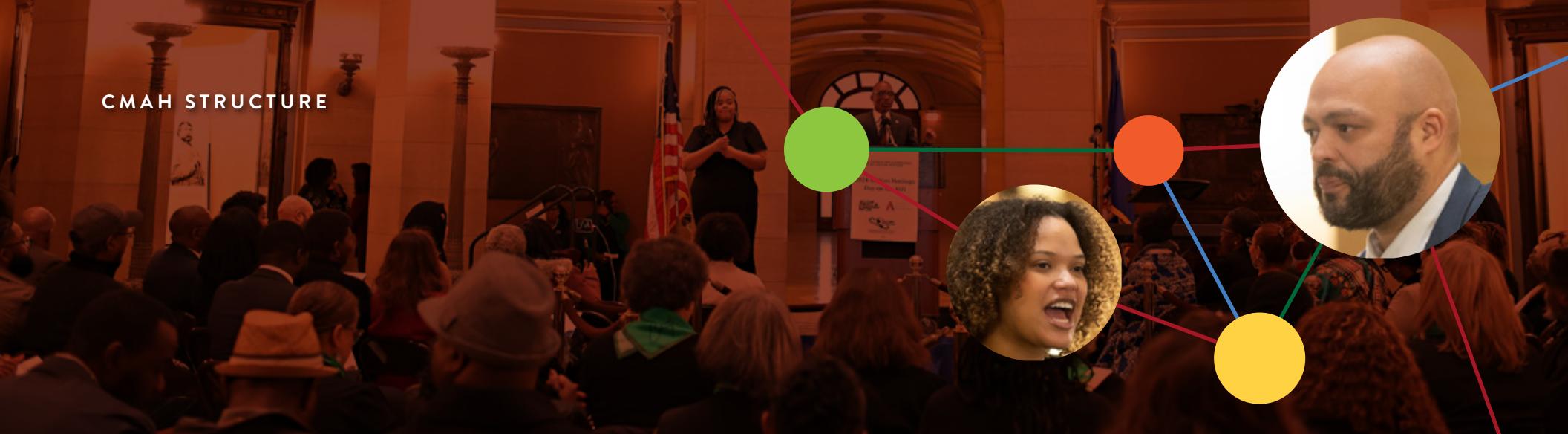
## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS



## 2026 ACTIVITIES

The following 2026 timeline of activity forecasts the program structure of the Council.

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION
JANUARY	Council Meeting	The Council presents its Annual Report and timeline of activity for the year.
JANUARY 15	Annual Report Due	The Annual Report is due to governing committees and the legislative library.
JANUARY 15 – 19	The Governor's 40th Annual Statewide Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration	The Council, the Governor's MLK Day Council, and the Office of Equity, Opportunity, and Accessibility
FEBRUARY 12	African Heritage Day on the Hill	This event elevates the leadership of Minnesotans of African Heritage at the Capitol.
FEBRUARY 17	Legislative Session Begins	The Council engages lawmakers on issues that affect the Council's constituents.
MARCH	Spring Break	The Council holds in-district meetings.
MAY 18	Legislative Session Ends	The Council starts prepping for the session debrief and statewide summer outreach efforts.
JUNE 19	Juneteenth	Juneteenth events
JULY	Council Retreat	The Council holds training and strategic planning sessions for its leadership and staff.
JULY	Session Debrief	The Council holds a community event offering an analysis of the legislative session.
JULY	FY27 Begins	The staff closes out FY26 and finalizes FY27 financials.
JUNE – SEPTEMBER	Summer Statewide Outreach Program	The Council works with constituents to host roundtable discussions on issues affecting constituents.
SEPTEMBER	Legislative Training	The Council holds legislative training for community members.
NOVEMBER	Fall Policy Summit	The Council hosts a policy summit focused on community-derived solutions to issues facing constituents.



## COMMITTEES

In addition to advising legislative leaders in the enactment of legislation, the Council collaborated with executive branch agencies to provide input on bringing racial equity to state services and administrative policies and practices. In 2025, the Council partnered with the following agencies:

**Cultural and Ethnic Community Leadership Council Minnesota**  
Department of Human Services  
444 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155  
[mn.gov/dhs](http://mn.gov/dhs)

**Governor's Council on the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday**  
Governor's Office  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
[mn.gov/governor](http://mn.gov/governor)

### **Violent Crime Coordinating Council**

Minnesota Department of Public Safety  
445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101  
[dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/Pages/violent-crimes-coordinating-council.aspx](http://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/Pages/violent-crimes-coordinating-council.aspx)

### **Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act (MAAFCWDA)**

Department of Children, Youth, and Families  
444 Lafayette Road N  
Saint Paul, MN 55155  
[https://dcyf.mn.gov/partners-and-providers/child-safety-and-permanency/minnesota-african-american-family-preservation/maafpcwda-about-act](http://dcyf.mn.gov/partners-and-providers/child-safety-and-permanency/minnesota-african-american-family-preservation/maafpcwda-about-act)

### **Human Services Performance Council Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families**

444 Lafayette Road N  
Saint Paul, MN 55155  
[https://dcyf.mn.gov/human-services-performance-management](http://dcyf.mn.gov/human-services-performance-management)

### **Governor's Workforce Development Board Racial Equity Committee**

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development  
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
[mn.gov/deed/](http://mn.gov/deed/)

### **State Transportation Plans Policy Advisory Committee**

Minnesota Department of Transportation  
395 John Ireland Blvd., MS 440  
St. Paul, MN 55155

### **Public Safety Advisory Council**

Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training  
[post.state.mn.usdps.mn.gov/entity/post/meetings/Pages/advisory-council.aspx](http://post.state.mn.usdps.mn.gov/entity/post/meetings/Pages/advisory-council.aspx)

## MINNESOTA HOUSE

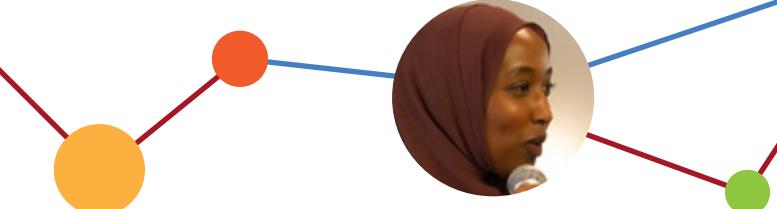
Rep. Anquam Mahamoud, District 62B  
Rep. Esther Agbaje, District 59B  
Rep. Mary Frances Clardy, District 53A  
Rep. Lisa Demuth, District 13A  
Rep. Cedrick Frazier, District 43A  
Rep. Huldah Momanyi-Hiltsley, District 38A  
Rep. Athena Hollins, District 66B  
Rep. Walter Hudson, District 30A  
Rep. Samakab Hussein, District 65A  
Rep. Mohamud Noor, District 60B

## MINNESOTA SENATE

Sen. Bobby Joe Champion, District 59  
Sen. Omar Fateh, District 62  
Sen. Zaynab Mohamed, District 63  
Sen. Clare Oumou Verbeten, District 66  
Sen. Erin Maye Quade, District 56

## AGENCY STAFFING

In 2025, the Council started the year with 4 full-time employees (FTEs) and 1 part time employee. In January, the Council hired two Capitol Pathways interns, Sarah Jilaow and Famatta Rogers. In July, the Council hired Adrian Lowe as the new office manager to replace Ash Musana who left in March. We would like to thank them for their many contributions to the success of our team.

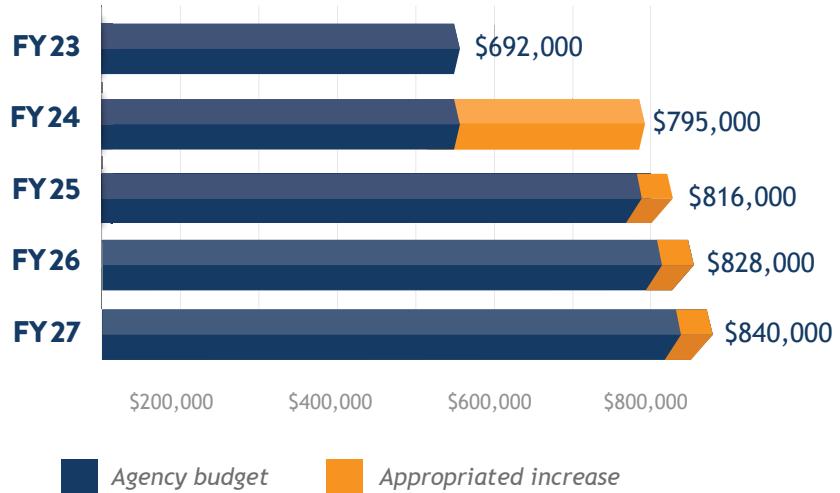


# 2025 financial report

## CALENDAR YEAR 2025/26 BUDGET

The Council started fiscal year 2025 with an appropriation of \$816,000 and additional carryover funds due to lower expenditures in 2024. Expenditures in FY25 were \$877,000, which reflects our increased focus on community engagement and outreach. The Council started fiscal year 2026 with an appropriated amount of \$828,000. In 2024, it was reported that since fiscal year 2025 was the second year of the biennium, funds would not be carried over into 2026. However, new legislation passed in 2025 that allowed unspent funds from FY25 to carry forward to FY26.

## AGENCY BUDGET



Agency budget

Appropriated increase

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage comprises 15 members, as stated in Minn. Stat. § 15.0145 subd. 2. Eleven members of this council are public members appointed by the Governor, and four members of this council are legislators. The council will comprise the following:

- The Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage must include members who are broadly representative of the African Heritage community of the state. The council must include at least five women. At least three members must be first- or second-generation African immigrants, who generally reflect the demographic composition of these African immigrants, as determined by the state demographer.
- Four legislators are voting members of each council. The Speaker of the House and the House Minority Leader will each appoint one member to each council. The Subcommittee on Committees of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration will appoint one member of the majority caucus and one member of the minority caucus to each council.
- The governor may appoint a commissioner of a state agency or a designee of that commissioner to serve as an ex-officio, nonvoting member of a council.

## Governor Appointees

**Wayne Doe, Chair**  
Term ends 01/04/2027

**Carl Crawford, Vice Chair**  
Term ends 01/04/2027

**Twauna Mullins, Treasurer**  
Term ends 01/04/2027

**Yolonde Adams-Lee, Secretary**  
Term ends 01/03/2028

**Jude Nnadi, Member**  
Term ends 01/04/2027

**Jerad Green, Member**  
Term ends 01/04/2027

**Hannah Dereje, Member**  
Term ends 01/04/2027

**Ellena Kaine-George, Member**  
Term ends 01/03/2028

**Victor Obisakin, Member**  
Term ends 01/03/2028

**Cindy Devonish, Member**  
Term ends 01/03/2028

**Gloria Atika, Member**  
Term ends 01/03/2028

*We would like to thank Ash Musana, Abdirahman Dahir and Andre Dukes for their years of service to fulfilling CMAH's mission.*

**COUNCIL FOR MINNESOTANS  
OF AFRICAN HERITAGE**

# council members

## Legislative Members on the Council

**Sen. Omar Fateh (District 62)**  
(Minnesota State Senate)

**Rep. Cedric Frazier (District 43A)**  
(House of Representatives)

**Rep. Walter Hudson (District 30A)**  
(House of Representatives)

## CMAH Staff

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