

MOBILIZING PHILANTHROPY

2020 Annual Report



MINNESOTA COUNCIL
ON FOUNDATIONS

A Message From MCF President, Susie Brown



We started the year 2020 in a mood to celebrate. MCF had a new and reorganized staff, updated internal systems, and was launching its 50th anniversary year. Little did we know what was ahead. It was for MCF, and for the world, a year like no other. Through it all, more than anything, we mobilized.

Highlights from 2020 included mobilizing the community through the Minnesota Census Mobilization Partnership, and mobilizing foundations to support the Minnesota Disaster Recovery Fund and the Integrated Capital Recovery Fund. In each case, Minnesota's philanthropic sector made a timely response to the challenges and opportunities of the moment, and a significant difference in the community.

Now it's clear that the work of Minnesota's philanthropic sector is to mobilize for equity and justice. In 2020 MCF laid the foundation for this critical work—making a board commitment to become an anti-racist organization, and undertaking the work to update the Principles for Philanthropy, which guides our field. Please join us as we mobilize around these critical issues in 2021.

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MCF's work to bring people together in the very early stages of the census made it possible to weave together crucial resources and relationships for successful counts in rural places.

Jaci David,
Director of Innovation & Design
Blandin Foundation



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One of the greatest impacts we can make in philanthropy is to coalesce around a shared vision and goal. I am proud to have collaborated with MCF ahead of what we anticipated would be the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. We knew we needed to mobilize quickly. MDRF became that vehicle for us.

Mai-Anh Kapanke,
Associate Vice President of Philanthropic Services
Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

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After the coronavirus pandemic and the murder of George Floyd, MCF recognized the need to take a step back to understand and address the impact of systemic racism in our communities.

MCF started the journey to become an anti-racist organization by looking at our internal practices and policies, programs and member offerings, relationships with the broader community, and the role of philanthropy in the work for racial justice.

Aretha Green-Rupert, *2021 MCF Board Chair and Program Director at Carlson Family Foundation*

Mobilizing Philanthropy

We asked MCF members how they mobilized in 2020 to make an impact within their organizations and the field of philanthropy. These are the voices and reflections of the sector.



Minnesota Disaster Recovery Fund and Covid-19 Responsiveness

Minnesota Disaster Recovery Fund for Coronavirus

In late January 2020, as the first cases of Covid-19 were reported in the United States the notion of a pandemic quickly became a reality. Individuals, families, businesses and the global economy began to experience severe loss as the coronavirus spread from state to state.

MCF and the philanthropic sector began to collaborate and mobilize in an effort to mitigate challenges that would soon plague Minnesota communities.

MCF partnered with the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation to create the Minnesota Disaster Recovery Fund for Coronavirus—quickly raising \$11.6 million within 6 months distributing support to 1,700 nonprofits, 3,000 small businesses and individuals for Covid-19 relief and recovery efforts.



Notable Highlights

MDRF Statewide Impact

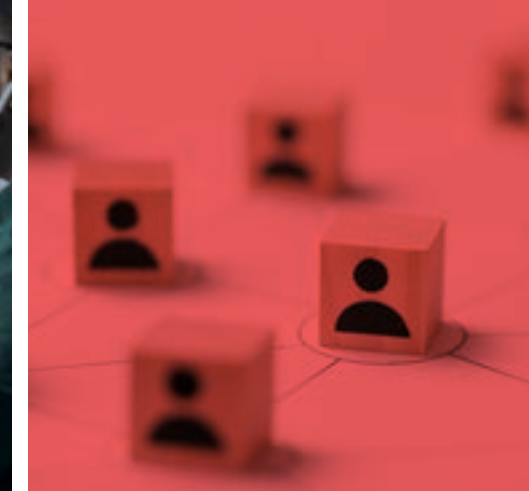
- **92 intermediaries received funds** to support relief and recovery efforts.
- **99 grants were distributed** to intermediary organizations in the Northwest, Northland, West Central, Southwest, Southern and Twin Cities regions.
- **77 donors mobilized** and prioritized fundraising as part of MDRF.



Integrated Capital Recovery Program

MCF created the Integrated Capital Recovery Program to respond to the economic crisis and racial reckoning.

MCF members committed \$7.3 million in grants and \$20 million in low interest rate loans to 17 Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs), nonprofit groups that directed the resources to community needs including affordable housing, BIPOC small businesses and nonprofits across Minnesota.



MCF Programming Mobilizing the Sector

MCF changed our programming in multiple ways to respond to the needs of MCF members and strengthen how they support communities. Covid-19 impacted MCF's approach to curating events, workshops and trainings, shifting to quick delivery of virtual programs.

The economic downturn and racial reckoning after the murder of George Floyd led MCF to be more responsive to community needs, to member initiated programming and to new areas of program focus.

Through the collaboration of board, staff and members, we expanded programming to a more innovative approach to mobilize how and where we work together.

Notable Highlights

50th Anniversary Celebration

In February 2020, MCF celebrated its 50th anniversary at our annual conference. Over 300 attendees came together in-person at the McNamara Alumni Center, in the waning days before the surge of Covid-19. The high energy event included a uniquely Minnesota-focused line-up of dynamic presenters with an emphasis on peer learning from within our philanthropic sector.



Responsive Programming

MCF utilized technology to broaden opportunities for members to connect virtually, which ultimately led to planning over 135 member-focused events, trainings and workshops. All told, 4,467 participants attended MCF events including all-member calls with the Governor's Office and Federal Reserve Bank, dozens of member-initiated briefings, various educational trainings and multiple peer network meetings.





Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Upholding our Values and Committing to Becoming an Anti-Racist Organization

At the Minnesota Council on Foundations we are committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Taking what we've learned from the Ron McKinley Philanthropy Fellowship, in 2020 we embarked upon a journey to focus more on systemic racism, aspiring to become an anti-racist organization and philanthropic sector as a whole. We developed an Anti-Racist vision and framework that is used to put our D.E.I. values into action and measure our effectiveness.

Our Anti-Racism Framework is a tool that helps guide our programs, services and methods of communication. Additionally, the framework is used to support internal policies, systems and on-going learning as a bold commitment to engage Minnesota's vibrant philanthropic community to advance prosperity and equity.

Notable Highlights



Launched the Transforming Philanthropy Learning Community of Practice

Adapted from Transforming White Privilege curriculum—this first-ever asynchronous blended learning community was designed to help leaders within philanthropy identify and productively address white privilege and its consequences.



Developed MCF's Anti-Racism Framework

MCF worked with board members and staff to develop an anti-racism framework—outlining the key components, foundation, activities and resources needed to become an anti-racist organization and sector.

Public Policy Amplifying Philanthropy's Voice

MCF worked diligently with policymakers, foundations and community leaders to promote charitable giving and a strong independent sector, strengthen democratic systems and civic participation, and bolster Minnesota's disaster response and recovery system.

In March 2020, MCF represented Minnesota philanthropy at Foundations on the Hill in Washington D.C., advocating for more inclusive charitable giving incentives and a fully funded and protected 2020 Census. Before the state legislature went virtual, MCF organized testifiers for a hearing in the MN House on a bill that MCF and our members helped author to promote a more equitable disaster recovery system in Minnesota.

Once the pandemic hit, MCF partnered with many others in advocating for nonprofit and philanthropic sector priorities in Covid relief legislation at the state and federal level, working to ensure that nonprofits and the communities they serve were included in relief efforts. Throughout 2020, MCF had an enduring focus on the 2020 Census and ensuring that a full and inclusive count was achieved in Minnesota, despite many challenges due to the pandemic, efforts to politicize the count, and shifting timelines.

Notable Highlights



Minnesota Census Mobilization Partnership Efforts

Our convening efforts with the Minnesota Census Mobilization Partnership ultimately contributed to Minnesota achieving the highest Census self-response rate in the nation at 75.1%, which helped Minnesota retain eight Congressional districts by just 26 people.



MCF raised \$4 million and engaged more than 300 organizations to support a fully-inclusive nonpartisan, accurate Census count in Minnesota.

Our efforts focused on ensuring that historically under-counted communities were counted and seen in the data.

2020 Financial Snapshot

Mobilizing for the Greater Good

The definition of “mobilize” is to make something movable or capable of movement. In 2020, MCF mobilized philanthropy through shared learning, responsive funding, and timely public policy efforts.

We ended the year energized to continue to learn and grow with our members, in pursuit of equity and justice.

We are grateful for those who supported our organization, and every investment that helped us build a stronger network for the greater good within the philanthropic community.

Revenue: \$1,602,670

68%

Membership Dues

Member dues allow us to deliver high quality programs and events—with 4,467 participants in 2020.

25%

Grants and Sponsorships

Grants and sponsorships underwrite our programs, conference, and special projects.

7%

Training and Learning

Grantmakers built skills and networks by attending MCF’s professional development opportunities.

Expenses: \$1,528,935

42%

Member Services

MCF Member Services lead the way by prioritizing member-focused events that were relevant and timely to the sector.

26%

Advocacy and Awareness

MCF advocated at the state and federal level to mobilize awareness around public policy and issues that impact the state of Minnesota.

25%

Management and Fundraising

MCF staff provided organizational strength and stability, raised resources to support community organizations, and offered contracted services to engage members for purposeful action.

7%

Connecting Communications and Research

We mobilized communication and research strategies to ensure topics, issues and data were front and center.

2020 MCF Board of Directors

Officers



Kim Borton, *Chair*
Director of Grants and Donor Services,
InFaith Community Foundation



Aretha Green-Rupert, *Vice Chair*
Program Director,
Carlson Family Foundation



Michael Dominowski, *Secretary*
Director of Community Affairs,
Thrivent



Katherine E. Friesz, *Treasurer*
Executive Director,
Winnebago Industries Foundation

Directors



Diana Anderson,
President/CEO,
Southwest Initiative
Foundation



Ben Cameron,
President,
Jerome Foundation



Jaci David,
*Director of Innovation
& Design*,
Blandin Foundation



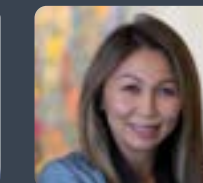
Sarah Duniway,
Partner,
Lathrop GPM
Foundation



Frank Forsberg,
Trustee,
Robert E. and Edith
M. Grissinger
Foundation



Jenny Johnson,
*Director of Family
Philanthropy
Resource Center*,
The Minneapolis
Foundation



Mai-Anh Kapanke,
*AVP of Philanthropic
Services*,
Saint Paul &
Minnesota
Foundation



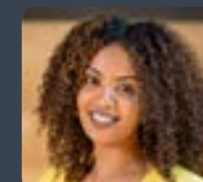
Denise Mayotte,
Executive Director,
Sheltering Arms
Foundation



Judson McNeil,
President,
The Toro Company
Giving Program and
The Toro Foundation



Repa Mekha,
President and CEO,
Nexus Community
Partners



Lulete Mola,
*Vice President of
Community Impact*,
Women’s
Foundation of
Minnesota



Kate Seng,
*Senior Director of
Higher Education*,
GHR Foundation



Matt Stowell,
Controller,
Northwest Area
Foundation



Erik Torch,
*Director of
Grantmaking*,
Northland
Foundation



Leslie Wright,
*Vice President of
Development and
Alumni Relations*,
Mitchell Hamline
School of Law



Nancy Zallek,
President and CEO,
Mankato Area
Foundation

MCF Staff



Susie Brown
President



Camille Caster-Cyprian
Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion Director



Kristen Cullen
Member Engagement
and Grants Manager



Patricia Starks-Faggett
Finance and Administration
Manager



Chris Oien
Communications and
Research Specialist



May Yang
Public Policy Manager



Erin Jordan
Marketing and Communications
Director



Paul Masiarchin
Member Services Director



Brianna Kocka
Governance and
Operations Manager



Susan Hammel
Executive in Residence



Josh Vang
Member Services Manager



Katina Mortensen
Public Policy Director



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#WeAreMCF

Anti-racism is the active process of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, policies and practices and attitudes, so that power is redistributed and shared equitably.

MCF is committed to becoming an anti-racist organization while applying our values of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Principles for Philanthropy and working in community to advance prosperity and equity in the state of Minnesota and beyond.

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