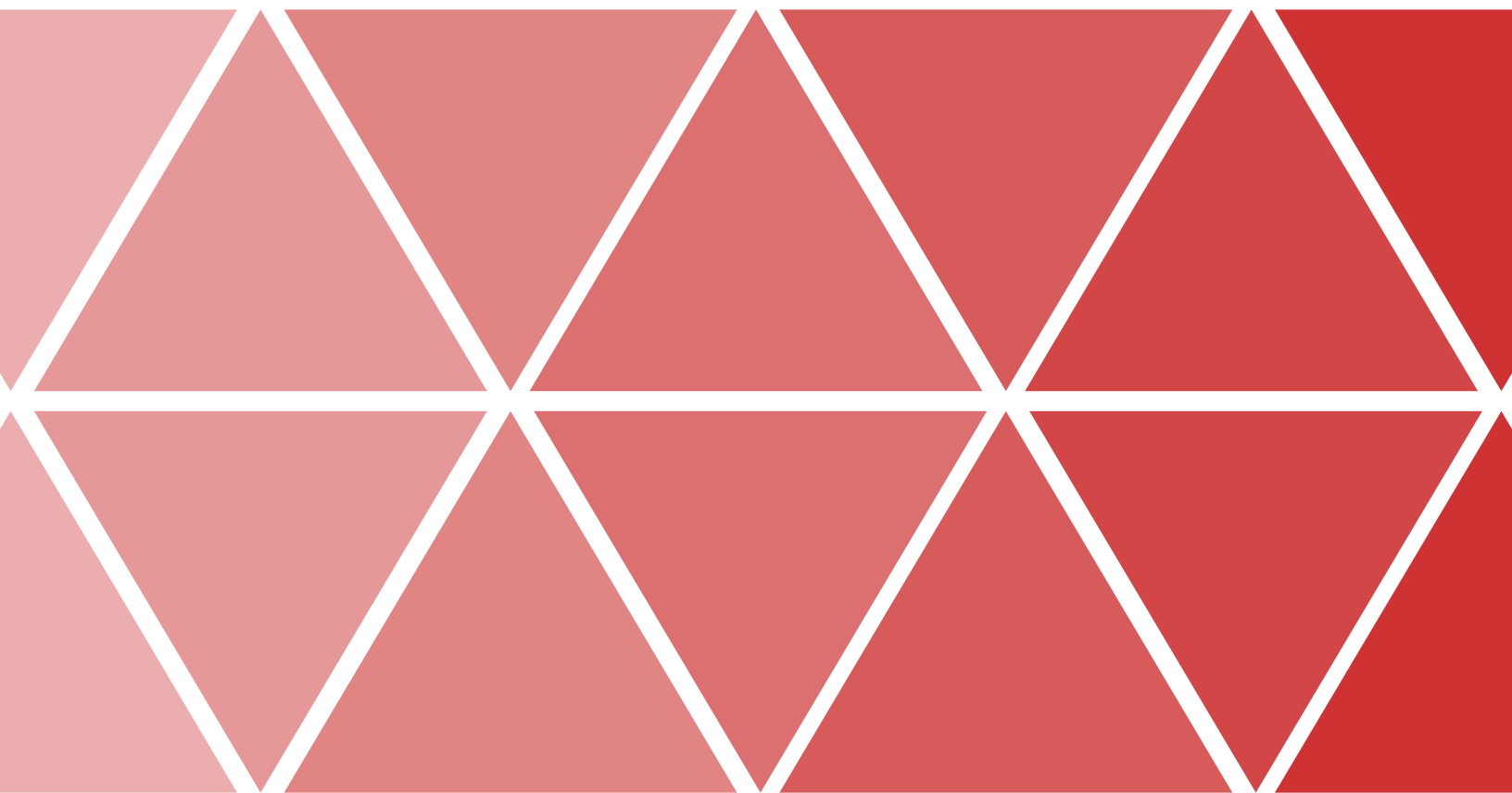


# Minnesota Council of Nonprofits



**2016**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**

MINNESOTA  
COUNCIL OF  
NONPROFITS

## dear friends and supporters,

Working with nonprofit leaders throughout Minnesota, from our main office in St. Paul and six regional chapters, MCN is engaged in an ongoing conversation about current and future challenges facing the nonprofit sector.

While 2016 could be characterized as having a relatively healthy Minnesota nonprofit economy, with continued growth in nonprofit revenues, employment and wages, the year ended with intense political uncertainty. Budgets and forecasts at all levels of government were thrown into question by the 2016 election of Donald Trump. Different parts of the nonprofit sector would be affected by proposed shifts and reductions in funding and eligibility, from health care and housing to arts and education, often provided through partnerships with government entities as a funding source.

Uncertainty requires preparation for what could happen, and for that I am extremely proud of the work MCN member organizations have undertaken for whatever challenges may come. Minnesota has one of the largest and most active nonprofit sectors in the U.S. which has continued to grow in influence and proven quite adaptable in the face of change.

MCN's board, with 23 leaders from every part of Minnesota, is a key part of that preparation, looking ahead for opportunities and options to help organizations achieve their potential and succeed at their missions. In 2014 MCN adopted two overarching strategic objectives:

- MCN will launch broad efforts aimed at strengthening nonprofits' inclusion and engagement practices and increasing the sector's effectiveness in serving new and underrepresented as well as existing populations and needs.
- MCN will develop a communications and outreach campaign to increase the sector's influence by developing MCN's capacity to respond to opportunities to educate the public about the field and building deeper relationships between nonprofits and key audiences.

These continue to inform MCN's work across all areas.

Building on MCN's ongoing work, in 2016 we set the stage to respond more quickly and provide more information options and avenues for participation:

- **Accessibility Expansion:** The renovation of MCN's St. Paul headquarters established a Nonprofit Learning Center, tripling the available training space and equipping the center with the technical infrastructure to connect audiences statewide and beyond.
- **E-Learning:** The successful buildout of an e-Learning studio and development of robust curriculum of on-line learning opportunities now enhances MCN's capacity to offer technical expertise, strengthen nonprofits and support nonprofit staff and board members across the state.
- **GrantAdvisor:** Launched in partnership with GreatNonprofits and the California Association of Nonprofits, GrantAdvisor.org is a new web service that facilitates open dialogue between nonprofits and grantmakers by collecting authentic, real-time reviews and comments on grantseekers' experiences working with funders to encourage more productive philanthropy.

In the following pages you'll see an overview of MCN's advocacy, convening and support for nonprofits in 2016, and an appreciation of MCN's many amazing partners and allies in strengthening Minnesota's nonprofit sector. On behalf of the MCN board and staff, we appreciate your organization's participation. By joining with other nonprofits across the state, you have built a network

It's great to be in this with you!

sincerely,

**Jon Pratt**  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits

**Mary Jones, MCN Board Chair**  
Interim C.E.O.  
YWCA of Minneapolis

# 2016 Highlights



## 2016 MCN Annual Conference in Duluth

- 675 attendees
- Duluth Nonprofit Tours
- 1/3 of attendees from Greater Minnesota
- Keynotes by Winona LaDuke and a panel including Jay Bad Heart Bull, Naaima Khan and Tony Sertich
- 53 resource exhibitors
- 39 breakout sessions

## Beginning Construction

In 2016, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits began the renovation and expansion of its St. Paul headquarters! Features of the new space include:

- The new Nonprofit Learning Center to accommodate up to 100 people with the technological infrastructure to connect participants to local and national nonprofit leaders,
- An e-learning studio to improve access to MCN's programmatic offerings, and
- An energy efficient HVAC system, recycling and composting program, handicapped accessible spaces, gender-neutral bathrooms and private rooms for prayer and nursing mothers.



Construction begins at the new MCN space

## Community and Nonprofit Awards

### Nonprofit Mission & Excellence Awards

- Aeon
- Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness
- Page Education Foundation
- Minnesota Initiative Foundations
- Wayside House, Inc.

### Virginia McKnight Binger Unsung Hero Awards

- Deborah Jiang-Stein
- Dr. Arne Vainio
- Qamar Saadiq Saoud
- Koresh Lakhan

### Nonprofit Leadership Awards

- Tyrai Ross, Minnesota Reading Corps and Minnesota Math Corps
- Blanca Raniolo, WERC Enrichment Resource Center
- LaDonna Hoy, Interfaith Outreach and Community Partners



Blanca Raniolo, LaDonna Hoy and Tyrai Ross  
- this year's Nonprofit Leadership Award Winners



# Members in 2016

## 2,479 Total Nonprofit Members

with focus areas including poverty alleviation, environment, youth development and more - working on a number of issues important to Minnesota.

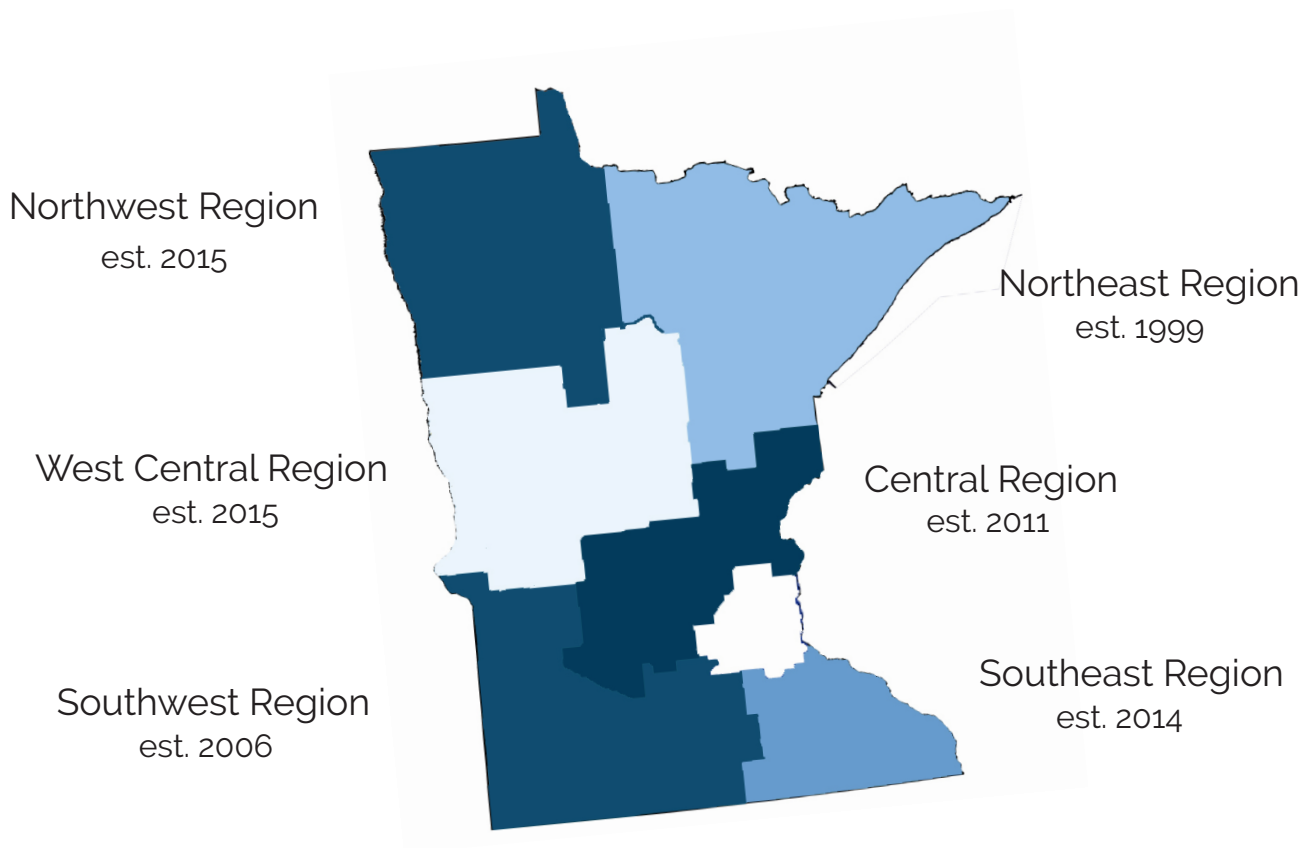
## 693 Greater Minnesota Nonprofit Members

representing nearly **30%** of our membership and growing in all areas of the state.

## 293 Associate Members

who provide valuable products, services and expertise and are strong champions and partners of nonprofits.

### MCN in Greater Minnesota



**You build a better world.  
We build stronger nonprofits.**

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits strives to develop programming that enables nonprofits to fulfill their missions for a better world.

Through workshops, networking events, conferences, webinars and more, we bring people together from across the state and support our strong, vibrant sector.

# 180+ Total number of events in 2016



**92** networking events (statewide)

**81** workshops (statewide)

**7** conferences

**58** Greater Minnesota events

## As a result of MCN events....

**81%** of survey respondents made positive changes in their organizations, including:

**28%**  
improved program evaluation

**22%**  
wrote a new grant

**20%**  
created a strategic plan

# Thank you to MCN's funders for supporting a thriving nonprofit sector across the entire state:

## Expansion and Accessibility

### Captial Campaign

Hugh J. Andersen Foundation  
F.R. Bigelow Foundation  
Blandin Foundation  
Otto Bremer Trust  
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation  
Bush Foundation  
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation  
Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation  
MAHADH Fund of HRK Foundation  
The McKnight Foundation  
MCN Board Reserve Fund  
The Saint Paul Foundation  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation  
Shavlik Family Foundation  
St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce

## Operating and Program

Blandin Foundation  
Bush Foundation  
Cargill Foundation  
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities  
Corporation for National and Community Service  
David B. Gold Foundation  
Deluxe Foundation  
Ford Foundation  
Greater Twin Cities United Way  
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation  
Mayo Clinic Community Contributions Program  
McKnight Foundation  
Northland Foundation  
Northwest Minnesota Foundation  
Otto Bremer Trust  
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation

Stoneman Family Foundations  
Target Foundation  
The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota  
West Central Initiative  
Willmar Area Community Foundation  
Xcel Energy Foundation

## Program Partners

Association of Fundraising Professionals - Minnesota Chapter  
Center for Integrative Leadership, University of Minnesota  
Center for Nonprofit Management, University of St. Thomas  
Community Giving  
Community Resource Connections  
FM Area Foundation  
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota - Duluth  
Mankato Area Foundation  
MAP for Nonprofits  
Minnesota Council on Foundations  
Nonprofits Assistance Fund  
Northwest Minnesota Foundation  
Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center, University of Minnesota  
Rochester Area Foundation  
The Design Company  
West Central Initiative  
Willmar Area Community Foundation  
Young Nonprofit Professionals Network - Twin Cities

## Sponsors and Key Program

### Partners

Alliance of Nonprofits for Insurance  
Ascension Development Group

Atomic Data  
BerganKDV  
Best Buy  
Blandin Foundation  
Bremer Bank  
Bush Foundation  
CBIZ  
CentraCare Health  
Central Minnesota Community Foundation  
CliftonLarsonAllen  
Comcast Business  
Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation  
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.  
Greater Twin Cities United Way  
Hamline University School of Business  
Humphrey School of Public Affairs  
The Improve Group  
Initiative Foundation  
Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota  
Lloyd K Johnson Foundation  
Mahoney, Ulbrich, Christiansen & Russ, PA  
Medtronic Foundation  
Metropolitan State University  
MINNCOR Industries  
Mutual of America  
Northland Foundation  
Saint Catherine University  
Saint Cloud State University  
SNI Certes  
Vehicle Donation to Any Charity  
Vela Consulting  
Xcel Energy

## financial position

	2016	2015
assets	\$ 2,836,367	\$ 1,811,717
liabilities	276,621	219,972
net assets	2,559,746	1,591,745

income	2016	2015
grants	\$ 1,143,123	\$ 980,526
dues	790,750	703,486
events	795,949	914,288
other earned income	359,584	192,993
<b>total income</b>	<b>3,089,406</b>	<b>2,861,555</b>

expenses	2016	2015
program	\$ 2,380,331	\$ 2,246,663
core mission support	583,039	381,505
<b>total expenses</b>	<b>2,963,370</b>	<b>2,754,398</b>

## staff

Kari Aanestad	Development Manager
Clark Goldenrod	Policy Analyst
Mark Buenaflor	Operations and Database Coordinator
Shelly Chamberlain	Director of Operations and Human Resources
Jesse Chang	VISTA Program Coordinator
Sarah Crumrine	Communications Coordinator
Deb Gorczycki	Accounting Assistant
Ann Iijima	Southeast Chapter Regional Coordinator
Maria Isley	Northeast Chapter Regional Coordinator
Becky Johnson	Finance Manager
Rebecca Lucero	Public Policy Director
Nan Madden	Minnesota Budget Project Director
Paul Masiarchin	Program Director
Shannon McCarville	Program Coordinator
Laura Mortenson	Communications Manager
Joe Pederson	West Central Chapter Regional Coordinator
Jon Pratt	Executive Director
Rinal Ray	Deputy Public Policy Director
Sondra Reis	Director of E-Learning
Andrea Sanow	Development Project Coordinator
Emily Steinmetz	Central Chapter Regional Coordinator
Biftu Takele	Nonprofit Services Assistant
Corinna Turbes	Federal Policy Campaign Coordinator
Rachel Wagner	Office Assistant
Bradley Wolfe	South Central Chapter Regional Coordinator
John Wurm	Membership and Communications Director

## board of directors

Mary Jones, Chair	YWCA of Minneapolis
Rodolfo Gutierrez, Vice-Chair	Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research (HACER)
Kenza Hadj-Moussa, Vice-Chair	TakeAction Minnesota
Bob Benes, Treasurer *	Lakes and Pines Community Action Council, Inc.
Sheila Smith, Secretary	Minnesota Citizens for the Arts
Thomas Adams	Better Futures Minnesota
Amy Brugh	Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition
Sarah Clyne	Domestic Abuse Project
Sue Estee*	Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Tracy Fischman	Prepare + Prosper
Sue Grafstrom*	LifeCare Medical Center
Molly Greenman	The Family Partnership
Lynn Hunt*	Happy Dancing Turtle
Cathy Maes	Loaves and Fishes MN
Angie Miller*	Community Action Duluth
Lori Saroya	Bush Foundation
Susan Schmidt	The Trust for Public Land
Jarell Skinner-Roy	College Possible
Ernesto Velez*	Centro Campesino
Melinda Wedzina*	MRCI WorkSource
Jonah Weinberg	Autism Society of Minnesota
Fartun Weli	Isuroon

*\*indicates a board member from Greater MN*

## 2016 MCN VISTA cohort

In 2016, MCN welcomed its third AmeriCorps VISTA cohort. These 12 VISTA members managed communications and outreach, developed programs, recruitment volunteers and gained nonprofit leadership skills while serving in community-based nonprofits across the Twin Cities.

MCN's VISTA program was made possible with support from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Alana DuLyn, HACER	Jocelyn Leung, Nexus Community Partners
Anna Kaiser, American Indian Family Center	Joshua Hutchins, Nonprofits Assistance Fund
David Kraft, MIGIZI Communications	Madeline Hyde, Dream of Wild Health
Edita Sabovic, MCN	Monica Pagani, Ka Joog
Hannah VanSant-Ouellette, VISTA Leader, MCN	Nicholas Smoger, LegalCORPS
Jato Wake, African Economic Development Solutions	Rebekah Jacobson, Karen Organization of Minnesota

## minnesota council of nonprofits

2314 University Avenue West, Suite 20  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55114  
651-642-1904  
[www.minnesotanonprofits.org](http://www.minnesotanonprofits.org)  
[info@minnesotanonprofits.org](mailto:info@minnesotanonprofits.org)