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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **MN Forward Pooled Fund Announces \$1.35 Million of Funding Statewide**

St. Paul, Minn. – August 19, 2025 – The [Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation](#) (the Foundation) and the MN Forward Pooled Fund partners are pleased to announce a total of \$1.35 million in grants given to groups across the state of Minnesota.

Twenty-seven groups each received a \$50,000 grant. The MN Forward Pooled Fund is a new grant program for organizations and coalitions with annual or program budgets of \$3 million or less and serve one of the three target communities: Twin Cities Metro, Greater Minnesota, or Native-led, Native-serving entities.

The MN Forward Pooled Fund was started by a collaborative of funders to address communities that were impacted by short- and long-term effects brought on by recent federal shifts. Grant funding supported projects falling under two categories: Fortify Grants and Futuring Grants. Fortify Grants support strategic planning and response efforts of organizations and collaboratives in the current moment. Futuring Grants support organizations and collaboratives building for futures where impacted communities are leading and thriving.

“These grant recipients are fortifying our nonprofit sector and also creating bold visions to where this sector could lead us,” said Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation Senior Vice President of Community Impact Alfonso Wenker. “Through the MN Forward Pooled Fund, we are proud to invest in solutions that are rooted in collaboration and a shared goal of strengthening a sector that provides critical services to Minnesotans.”

The MN Forward Pooled Fund grant recipients are:

#### **Native-led, Native-serving Grantees**

Bois Forte Band of Chippewa  
Dream of Wild Health  
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Environmental Program  
Little Earth Residents Association  
Mewinzha Ondaadiziike Wiigaming  
New Native Theatre  
Pocket Knife Press LLC  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians – Economic Development and Planning Department

## **Greater Minnesota Grantees**

Family Safety Network  
Jugaad Leadership Program  
Lead for Inclusion  
Men As Peacemakers  
Minnesota Seeds of Justice  
National Alliance on Mental Illness Southeast Minnesota  
Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community

## **Twin Cities Metro Area Grantees**

Asian American Organizing Project  
ConnectUP! Institute  
Inquilinx Unidxs por Justicia – United Renters for Justice  
Mamá Papaya  
Minnesota Deaf Queers  
The New Justice Project Minnesota  
Partnership in Property Commercial Land Trust (PIPCLT)  
Research In Action  
Resilient Cities and Communities  
Restaurant Opportunities Center of MN (ROC-MN)  
Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment  
Voices for Racial Justice

## **About MN Forward Pooled Fund**

The MN Forward Pooled Fund is a collaborative fund with contributions from several contributing members focused on supporting near-term & long-term responses led by impacted communities. To view program eligibility, [visit our website](#).

Contributing members: Bush Foundation, Carlson Family Foundation, F. R. Bigelow Foundation, Greater Twin Cities United Way, Mardag Foundation, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation, Margaret A. Cargill Foundation Fund at the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, Mortenson Family Foundation, Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, Several Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation fundholders

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## **About the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation**

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation believes in the best of Minnesota and the power of its communities. With roots in Saint Paul and partners across the state, it is Minnesota's largest community foundation and the partner of choice for thousands of donors, nonprofits and community organizations.

The Foundation aspires to create an equitable, just and vibrant Minnesota where all communities and people thrive by inspiring generosity, advocating for equity and investing in community-led solutions. Visit: [spmcf.org](https://spmcf.org)