



# Minnesota Community Foundation

*An affiliate of Minnesota Philanthropy Partners*

## THERE IS NO NEIGHBOR LIKE A MINNESOTAN

Minnesotans have a reputation as some of the best neighbors in the world. From gestures like helping a neighbor shovel snow to a tradition of civic engagement and thoughtful charitable giving, Minnesotans are known for their remarkable generosity of spirit. Minnesota Community Foundation was established in 1949 to help turn that generous instinct into real-world results. Since then, we have helped thousands of Minnesotans support the projects and causes most important to them. Our work makes the best neighbors in the world even better.

### **We are a resource and champion for communities and nonprofits across Minnesota**

As Minnesota's only statewide community foundation, we are uniquely positioned to develop and lead initiatives that bring people and ideas together. Our governing board of community, philanthropic and business leaders ensures a deep understanding of community needs and stewardship of our donors' wishes. Our experienced staff, investment expertise and decades of work in Minnesota's communities make us an ideal partner for Minnesotans who want to make an investment in our state's quality of life.

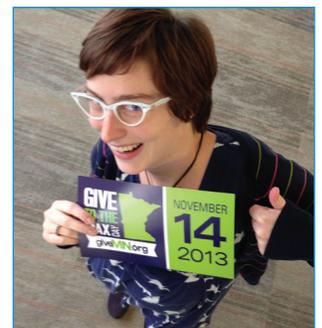
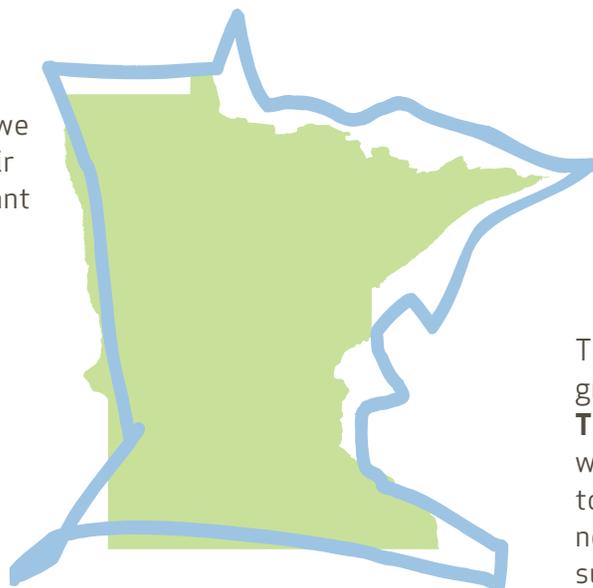
### **We are leaders of philanthropic innovation**

Over the past decade, we have created new ways for Minnesotans to support their communities, and we have built new platforms for sharing ideas and identifying and contributing to important local causes.

We launched the **Minnesota Idea Open** in 2010 to inspire creative thinking about critical issues in our state. In online idea competitions we ask Minnesotans how they would solve real-world problems. Community volunteers then narrow the suggestions, and we ask the public to vote for their favorite. Then we award a grant to turn that idea into reality.



We created the online philanthropy site **GiveMN.org** in 2009 to grow overall giving in Minnesota. Since then, GiveMN has engaged thousands of new donors and helped raise nearly \$100 million for more than 8,400 organizations across the state.



The Foundation manages an annual grant review for a generous donor's **Transformational Fund** — and then we award a one-time grant of up to \$500,000 to a Hennepin County nonprofit that is poised for long-term sustainable change.

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**In 2013, Minnesota Community Foundation made 1,826 grants to communities totaling \$11.9 million.**

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## How We Work With Donors

Whether you want to support a specific nonprofit or geographic area, we can help you set up a fund to support your charitable intent — during your lifetime and after. We work with donors to set up the type of funds that fit their needs and help them turn their charitable vision into reality — and a legacy.

Today, more than 665 individuals, families and businesses choose to work with Minnesota Community Foundation to make the most of their charitable giving.



**Paul and Susan Rosenau** decided to share their good fortune with Waseca after they won a record-breaking lottery. With guidance from the Foundation, they have made a series of investments in the city's quality of life by funding state-of-the-art equipment for local law enforcement, education programs and parks and trails.



**Jack and Alvida Browne** created a fund in 1996 to support causes in Wadena, where Jack was a longtime banker. When Jack died in 2009, sons Jeff and Kip took over grantmaking with Alvida's input. The Brownes have supported projects from improving the library to buying fire trucks. After

a tornado cut a path through Wadena in 2010, the family made a five-year commitment to support the construction of a community and fitness center. "Starting a family fund was one of the best things our family ever did," said Jeff Browne. "It helps build a strong community."

## Community Affiliates

The Foundation builds on the generous spirit of Minnesotans by supporting 14 community endowments and their volunteers across the state. From Albert Lea to Hibbing and from Red Wing to Wayzata, we provide financial, investment and operations expertise to give donors and communities the efficiencies, resources and economies of scale offered by a large foundation. For example:

With its focus on improving the lives of women and at-risk youth, **WINGS (Women In Northfield Giving Support)** has made nearly \$600,000

in grants for basic needs, education and health since 2000. Through entrepreneurship initiatives, it is moving women toward business ownership and self-sufficiency.



Since 1989, the **Waseca Area Foundation** has made \$3.9 million in grants to the community from its endowment and affiliated funds. Its three-year, \$75,000 commitment helped turn a downtown storefront into an Arts Center. Opened in 2013, the renovated building has a gallery, gift shop, instructional space and performance space.



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**Since 1949, Minnesota Community Foundation has made more than \$180 million in grants across the state.\***

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For more than 65 years, thousands of generous individuals committed to making Minnesota a great place to live have made charitable gifts to Minnesota Community Foundation. Guided by a legacy of innovation, the Foundation helps donors achieve their charitable giving goals and have a long-lasting effect on the communities they cherish.

To learn more about our work across Minnesota, our planned giving opportunities and the ways we can help you realize your charitable giving goals, please contact one of our gift planners or visit our website: [mncommunityfoundation.org](http://mncommunityfoundation.org).

\*As of 12.31.2013.