

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

# ABOUT MCN

## Our Mission

MCN works to inform, promote, connect, and strengthen individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector.

## Our Vision

Nonprofit organizations accomplish their missions for a healthy, cooperative, and just society.

# WHAT WE DO

**MCN is the leading source of professional development, research, advocacy, and networking for Minnesota's nonprofit sector.**

As one of the largest statewide associations of nonprofits in the country, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) joins nonprofits across interest areas to advance important nonprofit issues.

MCN maintains regional offices to provide locally-based opportunities to build the sector's capacity and strengthen its effectiveness.

Through its regional presence in Greater Minnesota, MCN amplifies its mission by offering educational trainings, hosting peer-learning opportunities, and connecting nonprofits to the resources offered through MCN's statewide network.

**Strong  
member  
network &  
benefits**

**Relevant  
workshops &  
conferences**

**Timely  
nonprofit  
data and  
research**

**Impactful  
state and  
federal  
advocacy**

# DEAR FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

2023 marked another year of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits providing educational events, public policy advocacy, and research that strengthened individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector. It was a banner year for public policy at the state level, with a number of bills passing which will improve the lives of Minnesotans, as well as the nonprofits that call Minnesota home. MCN continued to provide crucial resources for our members as their needs evolved, and we stayed steady and rooted as a guiding force for nonprofits in the state.

**2,532**

Nonprofit  
Members

**292**

Associate  
Members

**33**

Individual  
Members

## Organizational Updates

2023 was a strong year for MCN events, with an increasing number of in-person events, and a record number of attendees for our Annual Conference held in Greater Minnesota.

MCN continued its role as a leading nonprofit researcher and publisher, releasing the annual 2022-23 Minnesota Nonprofit Economy Report, 2023 Current Conditions of Minnesota's Nonprofit Sector, 2023 Minnesota Grants Directory, and Nonprofit News, a quarterly publication providing information on sector trends and resources. Through its educational programming, MCN worked with hundreds of people from other nonprofits, capacity building groups, and interactive learning for Minnesota's nonprofit sector.

It was also a "Minnesota Miracle" year for nonprofit advocacy at the state level, with over \$200 million in nonprofit projects receiving funding in the capital investment package.

## Public Policy

MCN continued to provide workshops, briefings, and other informational resources on how nonprofits can be proactive participants in public policy. In 2023, MCN celebrated the passage of bills that included universal school meals, Paid Family and Medical Leave, Child Tax Credit, voter registrations for 16- and 17-year-olds, and the restoration of voter rights to individuals convicted of a felony, among others. MCN supported these endeavors and believes they strengthen our communities.

Nonprofit projects received

# \$200 million+

of funding in the 2023 capital investment package.

## Minnesota Budget Project

In 2023, the Minnesota Budget Project joined with partners to advocate for essential investments in creating a more equitable economy. We are especially proud of our contributions in tax policy. The 2023 tax bill included more than half a billion dollars each year in additional funding in new or expanded tax credits for low- and modest-income Minnesotans to ensure that all Minnesotans can be a part of our state's prosperity.

For more than 25 years, the Minnesota Budget Project has identified and advanced policy solutions so that opportunity and economic security are within reach for all Minnesotans, regardless of who they are or where they live. Thanks to those commitments and cultivating authentic relationships, we were ready with partners and policymakers to advance the successful wins in 2023.

The Minnesota Budget Project  
joined Instagram and gained

# 1,600

followers. Join them!

The centerpiece was a new nation-leading Child Tax Credit, aimed at reducing child poverty in Minnesota. We also successfully advocated to simplify and expand our state's property tax refund for renters, and enact multiple tax policy changes to treat immigrants equitably by removing barriers to accessing tax benefits.



## Research

With the support of charitable contributions from foundations and corporations, MCN studies nonprofit sector trends and shares this research with members, other nonprofits, decision-makers, and the media. In 2023, MCN shared information widely on Minnesota's nonprofit sector, demonstrating the economic impact of nonprofits on the state's economy through two published research reports, public presentations, media citations, and more.

## Programming

In 2023, MCN sponsored approximately 100 public events with over 5,950 total attendees. Our Annual Conference set a record registration for a Greater Minnesota host site with 672 total attendees gathering in Duluth over two days in September. Other paid and free events focused on a wide range of topics including endowments and financial management, equity and justice, human resources, mental health in the workplace, board governance and relationships, accountability, community-centric fundraising, communications for small organizations, leadership development, and more.

# 275

people participated  
in MCN conferences  
thanks to Pay What  
You Can Rates.

# 5,756

people attended  
a paid MCN  
event.

# 100+

workshops,  
conferences,  
networking & free  
events were offered.



## VISTA Program

In 2023, MCN was awarded a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service to build the capacity of nonprofits serving or led by BIPOC, immigrant, and refugee communities to overcome poverty. The grant allowed MCN to place up to 17 full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members at nonprofit host sites, providing the resources, capacity, and connections for these community-based organizations to ensure operational sustainability and grow their community impact.

# 1,155

people from 131 organizations were covered by BenefitsMN.

# 14,282

postings on MCN's Job Board.

# 1,359

times publications accessed for free by members.

## BenefitsMN

BenefitsMN, sponsored by MCN, offers an Association Health Plan to MCN member nonprofits. 2023 is the fourth year of operations.

The program empowers nonprofits to be competitive employers by providing quality benefits to staff; about half of the organizations participating in BenefitsMN being new to offering medical benefits to their employees.

## GrantAdvisor

An anonymous review site of grantmaking foundations, launched by MCN in partnership with CalNonprofits and GreatNonprofits, celebrated its sixth anniversary with 3,187 reviews written about 910 U.S.-based foundations since its founding. The site provides a much-needed public space for open dialogue toward shared nonprofit and philanthropy goals.

# 2023 FINANCIALS

	2023	2022
Assets	\$4,698,878	\$4,644,598
Liabilities	\$617,448	\$887,857
Net Assets	\$4,081,430	\$3,756,741
<b>Income</b>		
Grants	\$1,609,502	\$2,387,072
Member Dues	\$1,140,804	\$1,074,912
Events	\$915,880	\$897,428
Other	\$376,895	\$57,340
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4,043,081</b>	<b>\$4,416,752</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program	\$2,738,691	\$3,091,383
Support	\$823,731	\$708,518
Fundraising	\$155,970	\$225,162
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,718,392</b>	<b>\$4,025,063</b>

# MCN STAFF

**Kari Aanestad**, Associate Director  
**Mark Buenaflor**, Operations and Database Manager  
**Laura Dunford**, Communications Manager  
**Marie Ellis**, Public Policy Director  
**Courtney Gerber**, Program Director  
**Yohannes Ghebru**, Finance Manager  
**Clark Goldenrod**, Deputy Director, Minnesota Budget Project  
**Vatsalaa Jha**, VISTA Leader  
**Lenny Jones**, Development Manager  
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**Jessie Luévano**, Policy Analyst, Minnesota Budget Project  
**Nan Madden**, Director, Minnesota Budget Project  
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**Sierra St. John**, Program and Accessibility Assistant  
**Anna Stolte**, VISTA Program Coordinator  
**Ricky Valentin Peña**, Administrative Coordinator  
**Warsame Warsame**, VISTA Program Manager  
**Jes Wysong**, Southern Minnesota Regional Coordinator  
**John Wurm**, Membership and Communications Director

# MCN BOARD

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**Leondra Mitchell**, African American Leadership Forum  
**Pablo Obregon**, City of Willmar  
**Lori Schwartz**, Lakes and Prairies Community Action Partnership  
**Sara Sommarstrom**, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans  
**May yer Thao**, Hmong American Partnership  
**Xavier Vazquez**, St. Paul Neighborhood Network  
**Mary Warner**, Minnesota State Bar Association  
**Daryl Yankee**, Daryl K, Yankee Consulting

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