



2021 MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE SAINT PAUL & MINNESOTA FOUNDATION GRANT GUIDELINES

The Management Improvement Fund will consider proposals from organizations that:

I. Address at least one of six areas of community vitality. Data and our experience suggest that the following elements play key roles in community health and vitality.

1. Community Connectedness

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation believes communities are stronger when people from all races and cultures have the opportunity to become engaged in the community in multiple ways. We support efforts that build community connectedness and the opportunity for equitable participation in arts and culture, civic dialogue and engagement, community problem solving, non-profit and philanthropic work, placemaking, and natural and built spaces where people live, work and play.

2. Economic Opportunity and Security

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation looks for ways to strengthen economic opportunity, security and equity for low-income individuals, families and the community. In particular, we are interested in community development, supporting more effective workforce education and training, and in creating good jobs and pathways to those jobs.

3. Education

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation is looking for ways to ensure access to high quality educational opportunities for everyone, from cradle to career – especially through support for organizations that understand the distinct racial and cultural communities they serve. We also invest in efforts to ensure that all children and youth have their individual educational needs met in preparation for a successful future.

4. Health

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation's objective is to advance health equity by increasing quality, affordable health services, particularly for low-income, uninsured and under-insured people. We are most interested in organizations that understand the distinct cultural and racial communities they serve and create meaningful programs and services for those communities. Our concept of health is holistic in nature, meaning that we support direct services and education addressing chemical, mental, oral, and physical health including investments in community-based clinics with culturally specific models.

5. Housing and Transportation

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation funds housing in two ways. First is our commitment to preserve and increase affordable, quality housing for low-income residents. Second, we support efforts to end homelessness through investments in prevention and in safe and respectful services that demonstrate understanding of distinct cultural and racial communities. We also fund increased access to equitable transportation options and benefits.

6. Human Services and Family Support

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation supports efforts to help the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community to be safe, stable and independent. We invest in organizations that build on the strengths of at-risk families and meet their basic needs in ways that demonstrate an understanding of distinct racial and cultural communities being served.

II. Support at least one of our stated indicators of success related to building community capacity. As a result of our community support, we hope over time to see the following indicators of success in our community:

- A greater number of individuals in Minnesota thriving in a state with increased equity and opportunity
- A greater sense of community connectedness, participation, inclusion, and civic involvement
- An increase in organizations using approaches that indicate their understanding of the needs of the distinct cultural and racial communities they serve
- An increase in nonprofit capacity to support equitable outcomes for Minnesotan communities

GEOGRAPHY SERVED

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation is proud to serve and fund Saint Paul's East Metro region, which is defined as Dakota, Ramsey and Washington counties.