Minnesota Disaster Recovery Fund for Coronavirus

In March 2020, the Minnesota Council on Foundations (MCF) and Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation created the Minnesota Disaster Recovery Fund (MDRF) to support community needs as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. MDRF allocated grants through local community foundations, the Minnesota Initiative Foundations, and other intermediaries who possessed the knowledge to address specific needs in their communities.

Total Funding Fundraised and Dispersed by MDRF

$11,618,980

100% of fund contributions were distributed to community intermediaries for disaster recovery efforts in the state of Minnesota.

Average Grant Size

$117,363.43

Funding supported Minnesota’s diverse communities (including but not limited to): Asian, Black, Disability Community, Hmong, Indigenous, Immigrant, Islamic, Jewish, Karen, Latino/Latina/Latinx, Lao, LGBTQIA, Native American, People of Color, Sudanese and Undocumented Immigrants.

Note: Roughly 50 percent of grantees mentioned serving Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) either in the description of their project and/or in their report; many acknowledged that they worked with one or more races, diverse communities, etc.

Intermediaries Regranted To:

1,700+ Nonprofit Organizations

3,000+ Small Businesses

Note: Donors include institutional foundations and donor-advised funds. There were an additional 123 individuals who donated to MDRF.

STATEWIDE FUNDING DISTRIBUTION (BY REGION)

According to Minnesota Compass, the percentage of population per region are: Central - 758,101 (14%); Northwest - 170,798 (3%); Northland - 324,818 (6%); Southwest - 275,843 (5%); Twin Cities - 3,065,147 (55%); and West Central 229,539 (4%).

FUNDING DISBURSEMENT: URBAN VS. RURAL

Urban 56%

Rural 44%

Basic Needs/ Food Security

Nonprofit Resilience

Access to Technology

Housing Stability

Small Business Support

Mental Health

Youth Development/ Programming

Technical Assistance Access to Government Programs

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Healthcare

Domestic Violence/ Sexual Violence

Childcare Providers

Education

Homelessness

Elderly Programming

Support for Arts and Cultural Institutions

48%

42%

26%

23%

23%

19%

18%

17%

13%

12%

10%

7%

7%

7%

6%

5%

Overall for MDRF

• Gather as much information about the situation, but be flexible and adaptable to changes and emerging needs.

• Establish transparent communication and approaches, particularly around equity, racial equity and equality.

• Determine how to measure impact, which could influence how data is captured (i.e. questions in applications and reporting).

• Include administrative fees in fundraising to support the organizations leading the collaborative, and allow intermediaries the option to include administrative costs in their proposal.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

ISSUE AREAS FUNDED THROUGH MDRF GRANTEES

MDRF provided 99 grants to intermediary organizations. Intermediaries reported that they supported a variety of issue areas within their communities. Note: Grants funded to a variety of initiatives, therefore the percentage does not add up to 100%.

Intermediaries Awarded To:

77 Donors

99 Grants Awarded

To Intermediaries

92 Intermediaries

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