

January 29, 2025

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
425 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michelle Fischbach
2229 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tina Smith
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Betty McCollum
2426 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Angie Craig
2442 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kelly Morrison
1205 Longworth House Office
Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Emmer
326 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ilhan Omar
1720 Longworth House Office
Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brad Finstad
2418 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Stauber
145 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: The local Minnesota impact of freezing federal funding

Dear Honorable Members of Minnesota's Congressional Delegation:

We ask that you act to protect the citizens of Minnesota and demand that the Administration honor commitments made to the citizens of this state. The Administration must continue planned payments to nonprofits and other federal contracting partners. This unnecessary "pause" will cause irreparable harm and cost lives.

The Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities is deeply concerned about the Administration's pause of federal funding, particularly to nonprofit organizations and the communities you represent across the state of Minnesota. **This "pause" will have ripple effects for citizens across Minnesota and could potentially cost lives of our most vulnerable Minnesotans. We are hearing widespread concerns about operational continuity for public service providers across the state- their ability to cover expenses already incurred and the ability to make payroll for the over 350,000 Minnesota nonprofit employees.**

Minnesota nonprofits operate deep public/private partnerships not only with the federal government directly but also with state, counties, and cities utilizing federal funds to deliver services that meet critical needs for Minnesotans through all stages of life. This action will harm young children, elders, people with disabilities, veterans, people experiencing domestic violence,

people who have experienced trauma, and Minnesotans at most risk, as they struggle to access services they need to survive.

The funds being paused support programs that you, as members of our Congress, have already determined to be priorities. **These are Minnesotan's tax dollars, and these are commitments to the state of Minnesota and its citizens.**

Previously approved and signed contracts for services and grants are affected. Grants that have been awarded but not spent are being halted. Any pending payment will likely be delayed or eliminated, including reimbursement for work already done and expenses already incurred, on behalf of the federal government.

This action is extremely harmful and is causing widespread confusion and we've encouraged our nonprofit organizations across the state to contact you directly to share their concerns.

We urge you to protect Minnesotans and push the Administration to honor priorities and continue planned payments to nonprofits and other federal contracting partners. This unnecessary "pause" will cause irreparable harm and cost lives.

Sincerely,



Steven Houtz
President & CEO

Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities
steven.houtz@macc-mn.org

About the Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities

The Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities (MACC) is a membership organization of over 60 community-based human service organizations that collaborate. MACC provides our members a place to learn from one another, share resources, and develop solutions to operational challenges that human service nonprofits share so that that members are able to focus on what they are best at- strengthening the communities they serve.

The MACC network believes in the transformational power of human services, the strength of our communities, and that everyone has the right to well-being. Collectively, MACC's network serves more than 300,000 Minnesotans working to strengthen individual, family, and community well-being. The MACC membership provides a wide range of services across the 7-county metro area ranging from food shelves, domestic violence services, housing, behavioral health, employment services, immigrant & refugee services, parent supports, youth development, and elder support.

**OUR 62 MEMBERS DELIVER A DIVERSE ARRAY OF PROGRAMS DEPLOYING
OVER \$394 MILLION IN COMMUNITY WELL-BEING INVESTMENTS
WE EMPLOY MORE THAN THAN 3,200 PEOPLE AND SERVE OVER 300,000
COMMUNITY MEMBERS ANNUALLY**