MINNESOTA NONPROFIT RELIEF FUND

Nonprofits were an afterthought in the creation of federal and state COVID relief programs, facing challenges like:

• Explicit exclusion from programs
• Limited or confusing eligibility
• Program structures weren’t built for nonprofits
• Inaccessible application processes or timelines
• Unanswerable questions for the nonprofit context
• Lack of tailored outreach and marketing

Ultimately, these challenges left nonprofits with significantly fewer COVID recovery supports than other sectors.

Nonprofits Received Limited Federal COVID Relief

• Only 3.7% of all PPP loans went to nonprofits
• Less than 50% of eligible MN nonprofits obtained a PPP loan
• PPP initially excluded nonprofits with more than 500 employees
• Less than ¼ of 1% of loan dollars from the Main Street Loan Program went to nonprofits
• Only 15% of nonprofits reported being able to use the Employee Retention Tax Credit

A strong nonprofit sector is essential to a full and inclusive economic recovery in Minnesota.

A Nonprofit Relief Fund will finally provide nonprofits with the designated relief dollars they need.

Questions?
Contact Marie Ellis, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Public Policy Director at mellis@minnesotanonprofits.org or call 651-757-3060.

State COVID Relief Programs Excluded Most Nonprofits

Only nonprofits that ‘earn revenue similar to businesses’ were eligible for State County Relief Grants and the Main Street COVID-19 Grant Program.

Contracts for services and capital grants to nonprofits alone don’t support nonprofit relief and stability.

Nonprofits are 14% of Minnesota’s workforce and need a designated relief program.