



OneMPLS grantee  
MIGIZI Communications

# ONEMPLS FUND

## Responding to emerging needs

When a critical issue emerges, this collective impact fund enables our community to join forces and respond nimbly. Every year, we target 1-3 issues in greater Minneapolis and use this fund to address them. The OneMPLS Fund supports organizations and projects that embrace intersectionality, systems change, innovative solutions, and multi-generational community voices.

The OneMPLS Fund draws upon our extensive network of community partners and the expertise of our grantmaking staff. Since 2019, funding has focused on supporting:

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Stable housing for families and youth

### **PANDEMIC RELIEF**

Communities disproportionately affected by the economic impact of COVID-19

### **REBUILDING**

BIPOC-owned businesses grappling with the dual crises of COVID-19 and the murder of George Floyd

### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Nonprofits enhancing their capacity as they meet evolving community needs

**\$6 MILLION AWARDED TO MORE THAN**

**160 NONPROFITS**

“I support the OneMPLS Fund because grants are awarded to organizations that serve the local communities most impacted by our greatest challenges. The Fund’s straightforward grant application structure promotes innovative thinking and resilience.”

**- Lisa Finley, OneMPLS donor**

A gift to the OneMPLS Fund is a simple yet powerful way to help dozens of organizations that are making an impact locally. We welcome contributions at any amount.



[MPLSFDN.ORG/DONATE](https://mplsfdn.org/donate)

## Emerging Insights from **ONEMPLS GRANTEES**

As part of the Minneapolis Foundation's ongoing work to evaluate the impact we are making through the OneMPLS Fund, we conducted a comprehensive review of the Fund in partnership with a consulting firm, TerraLuna Collaborative. The study included a review of reports submitted by organizations that received OneMPLS grants in the Fund's first three funding cycles. Here are key themes we heard.

### OneMPLS Grants Helped Local Organizations...



#### **BRIDGE GAPS IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

In the spring of 2020, some organizations that rely heavily on reimbursement for services rendered were facing a major funding gap when they had to pause services to adapt to the new challenges of the pandemic. Responsive funding from the OneMPLS fund helped them make payroll and gave them time to retool and reopen. Keeping the people on staff—whether they were full-time employees, interns, or artists receiving stipends—was critical in light of the challenges our community was facing. The staff at these organizations not only serve the community; they are members of our community. Without steady pay, they could have faced significant harm such as food insecurity or loss of housing.



#### **RESPOND TO COMMUNITY NEEDS**

OneMPLS grants helped local organizations respond quickly and nimbly to the community's changing needs, whether they were meeting an increased demand for their services, shifting from one set of services to another, or providing flexibility to community groups that they themselves were supporting.



#### **BE MORE INCLUSIVE**

Grantees appreciated the flexibility of their OneMPLS grants. By meeting the needs that they expressed in grant applications, this funding enabled organizations to be even more inclusive and flexible themselves, creating spaces to hear from the communities they serve.



#### **ADAPT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

OneMPLS funding helped grantees adapt their programs during the tumult of 2020. Some had to redesign programs significantly in order to deliver them safely. For example, some provided tech devices to enable participants to receive services remotely. Many also took a step back to consider longer-term changes that were needed in order to secure the organization's future.



#### **CONTINUE PROGRAMS DESPITE CHALLENGES**

OneMPLS grants helped local organizations continue to provide critically needed services while navigating the significant changes posed by the pandemic and the civil unrest of 2020.