

Minnesota CDFI Resiliency and Capacity Fund

CDFIs and Partners Supporting the Minnesota CDFI Sector



The Minnesota CDFI Coalition represents the almost 40 certified CDFIs and CDFIs in development across the state of Minnesota. Collectively, CDFIs have over \$700M in outstanding loans across the state, and closed 2,399 loans in 2024-2025. CDFIs offer tailored technical assistance, are often the first money in to launch a project, and provide necessary funding to close deals, bringing dollars to the communities that need it the most.

When funding needs to get to community, whether in moments of crisis or to keep opportunity growing, CDFIs are the partners of choice. This moment has shown how CDFIs are economic first responders, working directly with businesses affected by closures and revenue loss, workforce disruptions in businesses and childcare, housing stabilization, and supporting our communities through trauma.

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"My business has experienced a significant slowdown that has been both financially and emotionally challenging. My business is more than a beauty shop—it is my livelihood, my investment, and something I have built with care and sacrifice."

– Hmong American Partnership Client

Compounding the regular market challenges facing CDFIs, Operation Metro Surge in Minnesota brought unprecedented new disruptions. The economic losses are real and compounding. This includes:

Analysis of the CDFI loans estimates to tens of millions of dollars in portfolios across the state

Risk analysis based on activity from December 2025 through February 2026 estimates \$213M in small business losses in Minneapolis and St. Paul

The City of Minneapolis estimated \$81M in small business losses in January alone

Continued business closures and workforce disruptions across Minnesota, impacting employee recruitment and retention

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"Our organizations have stepped up in countless ways. We have organized community support, offered space for healing and safety, and shown up for our community, clients, and staff. This is all on top of the core work of supporting entrepreneurs and walking alongside them at a time of great uncertainty and risk."

– Renay Dossman, President & CEO, Neighborhood Development Center

CDFIs have responded to this moment, by extending flexibility in loan terms, partnering on economic relief efforts, and stepping up technical assistance and support. These activities have stretched CDFI resources and capacity.

The Minnesota CDFI Resiliency and Capacity Fund is an opportunity for CDFIs and partners across the country to support the CDFI sector in Minnesota, and engage in the kind of mutual aid that Minnesota has modeled for the rest of the country. The stability of the CDFI sector is crucial, and supporting this fund will in turn support CDFIs in expanding their capacity, building expertise, and offering flexibility to lenders.



The Minnesota CDFI Resiliency and Capacity Fund is housed at the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundations.

To make a donation to the Fund, contact Carl Swanson, MN CDFI Coalition Strategist, at carl@mncdficoalition.org