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Join us!

Volunteer for MINN:
  Education committee
  Networking committee
  IDEA Summit committee
  Fundraising committee

Photo credit: J. Nathan Matias
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"By attending MINN events I have learned about additional organizations working in my field and networked for possible job opportunities. My work overseas has gained more visibility, and I feel part of the wider development community here."
-MINN Constituent
Leadership

BOARD LEADERSHIP
- President: Sara Stalland McGarraugh
- Vice President: Paul Walters
- Treasurer: JB Scherpelz
- Secretary: Alexis Hamilton
- President Ex-Offico: Jill LaLonde, Christine Papai, Christina Larson-Dickson, Melinda Czaia, Miriam Monono, Hayley Hontos

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP
- Communications Manager: Shane Dill
- Education Co-Chair: Kjersten Sanden, Rhiannon Williams
- Networking Co-Chair: Spectra Myers
- Summit Co-Chair: Kayla Mueller, JB Scherpelz, Rachel Satterlee, Lauren Satterlee

CONSULTANTS
- Membership Manager: Joe Eggers
- Consultant: Karen Baumgaertner

ARTISTIC DESIGN
- Photography: Erik Sande

HOW TO REACH US

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Greetings from the President

Little did I know that when I showed up to a MINN networking event back in 2010, a few months after arriving home from living in Cameroon, that I would end up leading the organization through its tenth anniversary of existence. At that time MINN was just a fun place for me to meet other Minnesotans who had similar life experiences and passion for international development. Five years later, this same truth still holds dear, yet my comprehension of its value has greatly deepened.

The Minnesota International NGO Network (MINN) represents to me the culmination of the Minnesotan philanthropic spirit. Not only is there a strong civic community of individuals putting others first, but they are doing this for those living beyond our nation. This connection to those abroad has been speculated as being rooted in our high refugee population; remnants of federal policy shipping these individuals to our wintry oasis. Others have posited that it goes farther back; to the numerous religious supportive service organizations located in the Twin Cities. Most hilariously, some cite “that Scandinavian heritage” (I’m sure our warm and fuzzy stoic politeness really engaged people).

Humor and philosophy aside, the mere existence of this annual report represents the strides MINN has taken in the five years I have been a part of the organization. We have generated enough capacity to allow me to create this report! Our accomplishments this year have been numerous. In highlight, we have hosted another IDEA Summit, Getting Hired event, had a fundraiser, hosted 4 United States elected officials as speakers, won a new website (for free!), continued offering memberships, and still managed to continue our regular programs.

SARA STALLAND MCGARRAUGH
2015 President Board of Directors
The Minnesota International NGO Network's (MINN) mission is to serve as a forum for international practitioners and supporters to learn, network and exchange professional expertise.
Who We Serve

MINN services target international practitioners and supporters living or based in the Twin Cities metro area, yet our reach extends well beyond the region. Our online presence allows us to connect with and update individuals working across the globe; many former Minnesotans continue to stay abreast of Minnesota activities through our newsletter. Our educational and networking events are intended to increase knowledge among international development and humanitarian professionals. Beyond just professionals, these opportunities are open to those with a desire to learn more about issues in the international development and humanitarian communities. The MINN constituency base ranges from students, to individuals with experience in international development, to current professionals in the field, to retirees, to former Peace Corps Volunteers.

What We Do

Composed of more than 1,500 professionals, MINN provides forums for international humanitarian practitioners, as well as those interested in international work, to connect with one another. MINN’s extensive network of volunteers execute more than a dozen events each year, focused on educating and connecting individuals. These events range from expert panels, to practitioner-led roundtable discussions, networking and job-seeker events, and the only international development conference in the Midwest. Through these events, our members engage in local dialogue about global issues, equipping others with the tools, contacts, and ideas to do better work around the world.
The goal of MINN’s educational programming is to bring relevant and current issues to its constituency for discussion and dissemination. MINN aspires for its educational events to spur innovation and challenge the status quo, aiming to push the international development community to be even more effective and thoughtful.
The Education Committee plans and executes 4-6 events a year using volunteers to generate topics of interest and bring in community experts as speakers.

In 2015, the Education Committee hosted 6 events with 313 registrants. Partnerships with universities, international NGOs, and community members resulted in increased exposure and expertise.

The Getting Hired event represents one of MINN’s strongest annual programming efforts. Held for the third time, this year had over 100 attendees which featured facilitated roundtables in different areas of international development following a panel. One hundred percent of post-event survey respondents supported this as an annual event, most felt their knowledge increased to some degree as a result of attending.

The following topics guided the MINN-led events:

- Documentary Night: Not My Life
- Socially Just Consent and Usage of Photos in NGO Marketing and Stories
- MINN Explores the Impact of Studying Abroad & International Volunteerism
- Cooperative Event at Fair State Brewery Cooperative
- Lessons Learned from the 2014 Ebola Outbreak
- Getting Hired

In 2015, 313 people registered for our events.

"[Through MINN, I have] broadened my knowledge of issues, trends and international development work being done [and] increased my overall knowledge of the field."
-MINN constituent
"[Being involved with MINN has] made me feel like I belong. I love the spirit of camaraderie."
-MINN constituent
Networking

The goal of MINN’s networking activities is to provide a space for those interested in international development and humanitarianism to connect and support each other in their work.

The Networking Committee plans and executes 5-7 events a year using volunteers to organize and host forums for anyone interested to connect. Networking events are intentionally unstructured time for individuals to meet one another over a shared interest in international development. These events also stem from the founders; the philosophy being that sharing this passion should be fun.

In 2015, the Networking Committee hosted 7 events, gaining 96 registrants for the more structured events, while welcoming many more to the non-RSVP meet-ups. The following opportunities were:

- Film outing and post-movie discussion: Poverty, Inc. at the International Film Festival
- Networking Happy Hour at Surly Brewery
- MINN Talk and Tour: Center for Victims of Torture
- MINN Talk and Tour: Compatible Technology International
- Annual Global Potluck
- Meet MINN – Networking Happy Hour to meet board members and volunteers and learn about engagement opportunities
- Networking Lunch at Midtown Global Market

7 Events held
IDEA Summit

"[The MINN Summit] fosters the notion that we're all in this together, that even though we're doing different work around the world, we're all here in Minnesota doing the work and caring, and we have a strong support network."

- IDEAS Attendee

The International Development Exchange and Action (IDEA) Summit is MINN's flagship event. This conference brings together leaders with a professional or personal interest in international work and a passion for enriching global well-being. After years of requests, we hosted our first IDEA Summit in 2013 exploring the theme "Building Sustainable Impacts."

This year MINN’s theme, “Fostering Minnesota’s Global Engagement,” recorded an impressive attendance of 229 practitioners and supporters, continuing the IDEA Summit’s legacy as the largest gathering of international NGOs and practitioners in Minnesota, ever. The conference included a keynote, morning and afternoon breakout sessions, a marketplace filled with community groups relevant to development workers, and a series of closing ideas and remarks from several speakers.

Vice President Walter Mondale served as the keynote speaker, with Dr. MayKao Hang, President of the Wilder Foundation moderating.
MINN voices through social media

229 ATTENDEES

Global Volunteers @GlobalVolunteers - Oct 16
- MINN Summit: Market Place - come stop by! Looking forward to exchanging ideas about International development & Cuba

CUBA!

Mary's Pence @maryspence1987 - Oct 16
People of all faiths help shape a culture of generosity. "It's working and we're all better off" - W. Mondale #MINNSummit

Alicia @ANStromberg - Oct 16
Keynote @MayKaoHang spoke about the power of a citizen's voice to create an impact. Speak up & speak out #MINNSummit
Communications

MINN has been reaching constituents near and far through an online newsletter. The role of MINN communications is to connect the community of international development and humanitarian practitioners and supporters to current events and news in the region.

This year, MINN created a Communications Manager position. For the first time, MINN provided consistent bi-weekly content featuring MINN-sponsored activities, celebrations, and curated news articles. Social media efforts link to newsletter content and provided a space for several discussion boards among practitioners looking for advice or ideas.

MINN underwent a significant online overhaul, receiving a new website through the Nerdery Overnight Challenge. Several volunteers devoted countless hours to revise, edit, and redesign the face MINN presents to the world. This new website has enabled MINN to streamline several operational processes and is poised for further efficiencies.

In 2015, MINN also saw its greatest media presence yet. Three independent news articles relied on MINN representatives as key experts and sources.

Arts and human rights organizations form a strong Minnesota bond
John Rash, Star Tribune

How Minnesota Nonprofits Are Changing The World
Sarah Lutman, Twin Cities Business Magazine

Top Global Development Employers in Minnesota
Liana Barcia, Devex
MINN members are a special part of our organization. While we open our events and activities to any who are interested, our MINN members are uniquely engaged in what we do. Through a $50 annual fee, members provide MINN with consistent revenue and receive several benefits in return.

Consider joining this group of intentional and motivated practitioners; those who are active in the field and desire a deeper professional network.

The following benefits are provided through a membership:

- Access the Annual MINN Global Report, an up-to-date directory on international NGOs in Minnesota disaggregated by area of the world they work, focus area, funding sources, staff size (here and abroad), willingness to accept interns or volunteers and contact information.
- Attend MINN Education events for one year, free of charge.
- Receive a 20% discount on individual tickets for MINN signature events, including the MINN IDEA Summit and MINNspire.
- Be the first to be informed of international employment opportunities via the MINN Members Only e-newsletter.
- Receive priority registration to MINN's most popular events, including MINN Talk & Tours and breakout sessions for the MINN IDEA Summit.
## Partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Refugee Committee</th>
<th>Round Earth Media</th>
<th>Minnesota International Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>U.S. Global Leadership Coalition</td>
<td>American Refugee Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Victims of Torture</td>
<td>Compatible Technologies</td>
<td>University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of St. Thomas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Speakers

U.S. Congressman
Keith Ellison

U.S. Congressman
Tom Emmer

Jon Halverson
Director
Land O’Lakes International Development

MayKao Hang
President
Wilder Foundation

U.S. Senator
Amy Klobuchar

Vice President
Walter Mondale

U.S. Congressman
Erik Paulsen

Chris Policinski
President/CEO
Land O’Lakes

Lee Zak
Director
U.S. Trade and Development Agency
Donations

Dollars raised at fundraising event: $1,528
Total dollars raised in 2015: $21,380

MINN revenue is generated through individual donations, membership, event fees and organizational sponsorships. Most notably, key events and organizational development milestones have motivated giving.

The volunteers for the IDEA Summit leverage valuable organizational sponsorship dollars to host the event.

After winning a free website redesign through the Nerdery Challenge, MINN received a $5,000 donation to support additional software integration and long term solutions to manage constituent engagement.

In early September, MINN hosted an intimate fundraiser at a local arts studio. This event raised over $1,500 and prompted a $15,000 anonymous gift as motivation to continue diversifying funding streams.
## MINN Financials

### Statement of Activities
for the year ending in December 31, 2015

#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Events/Programs</td>
<td>$15,462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$9,708</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>$1,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$27,039</strong></td>
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</table>

#### Revenue and Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue &amp; Support</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Donations</td>
<td>$23,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Sponsorships</td>
<td>$8,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Registration (Individual)</td>
<td>$5,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Fees</td>
<td>$5,248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Registration...</td>
<td>$1,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Donations</td>
<td>$1,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer/Affinity Group Contributions</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Registration/Admission</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Assets rose since the beginning of the fiscal year

- **Net Assets Begin FY** $44,775
- **Net Assets End FY** $64,740
Acknowledgements

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have spent countless hours engaged in the work we do. We recognize that the benefits and services we provide would be impossible without your energy.

A special thanks to the volunteer committee chairs who rally others and inspire change. Thank you to Karen Baumgaertner, who devoted herself to developing MINN infrastructure, setting MINN up for long term success. And, we are immensely grateful for the opportunity to work with Midnight Curry, a team of web developers who volunteered their time to upgrade our website.

Our richness is in the knowledge and time of our people. We hope you continue to support our growth in new ways and old.
MINN Volunteer, Maddy Kluesner