

SMALL ACTS ADD UP

Individuals, businesses, and organizations across Minnesota mobilized resources that flowed back to those most impacted. Just a few examples:



300 whistles
distributed in one day

Whistles became a rapid tool of warning and solidarity during the surge. Organizations and businesses passed out free whistles, including Minneapolis bookstore Comma which distributed hundreds in one day.

Source: The Seattle Times. 2026. "How the whistle became an anti-ICE rallying cry in Minneapolis." January 24, 2026. <https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/how-the-whistle-became-an-anti-ice-rallying-cry-in-minneapolis/>



6,657 diapers
and other infant
supplies gathered

The Follmer family gathered diapers and other infant supplies for Hennepin Healthcare's Pediatric Mobile Health Unit.

Source: Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute. 2026. "One Family, One Parking Lot, Thousands of Diapers: How the Follmer Family Turned Compassion Into Action." February 27, 2026. <https://www.hhrinstitute.org/one-family-one-parking-lot-thousands-of-diapers-how-the-follmer-family-turned-compassion-into-action/>



\$70.5M+
philanthropic response

Minnesota philanthropy raised more than \$70.5 million in response and recovery resources from December 2025 through April 2026.

Source: Minnesota Council on Foundations. 2026. "Strengthening Response in Real Time: How Minnesota Philanthropy Responded During Operation Metro Surge." May 29, 2026. https://mcf.org/system/files/documents/2026-06/Rapid%20Response%20Report_May2026_FINALWeb.pdf



"As I saw the federal troops coming into our city and acting in ways that were blatantly unconstitutional, I felt the need to step up and learn what's going on, to be trained, to understand how, as a citizen, I can take action against wrongdoings of my government."

Rapid responder in story collection process



MUTUAL AID NETWORKS: HOW COMMUNITIES RESPONDED

Local community and faith organizations became emergency hubs for basic needs and supplies during Operation Metro Surge, leveraging large-scale funding into local action.



“What I am seeing here in Minneapolis, in real time, is the cumulative impact of people showing up for one another: legislative outreach, mutual aid, meal delivery, legal observing, sharing resources, telling the truth. None of it is too small. All of it matters. And together, it changes what is possible.”

Minnesota resident and national advocate in statement provided to the Truth Council



NEARLY \$4.12 MILLION

DISTRIBUTED BY THE MINNEAPOLIS FOUNDATION

supporting 30 organizations providing basic needs, rental/housing assistance and other related support to local families. One grantee, The Food Group, partnered with Iglesia Dios Habla Hoy (IDHH) from December through March to provide more than 109,390 pounds of free, culturally connected food for immigrant families. IDHH mobilized hundreds of volunteers to pack and deliver food boxes to families sheltering at home, with 30,000 Minnesotans signed up online to receive food by March.



Housing assistance

Rent, mortgage, and utility help



Food support

Groceries, food boxes, and delivery



Essential supplies

Diapers, wipes, and household basics



Family support

Case management and resource navigation



Community response

Volunteer-powered aid and neighborhood relief

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provided by Iglesia Dios Habla Hoy
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