

**American Rescue Plan (ARP) State
Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF)
Request Form**

Please complete this form in accordance with
the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: MDE - Adosh Unni, Director of Government Relations

Title of Request: Education Partnerships Coalition

Date: 8/11/2021

Request Amount: \$ 4,000,000

Expenditure Time Period: 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2023

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

The Education Partnership Coalition (EPC) request would provide \$4 million for EPC members and other education partnerships to maintain, expand, or develop their coordination of community services. The collective allocation will provide \$500,000 each to the five EPC members in Greater Minnesota as well as Generation Next, \$250,000 each to Minneapolis Northside Achievement Zone and St. Paul Promise Neighborhood, and \$500,000 in competitive grant opportunities (up to \$100,000 each) for other partnership program locations not named for the purpose of initial planning and development.

The EPC is a statewide network of locally-controlled, data-driven public-private partnerships focused on eliminating Minnesota's opportunity gaps, which are among the worst in the nation. The eight members of the EPC include Austin Aspires, Rochester's Cradle 2 Career, Every Hand Joined in Red Wing, Generation Next, Northfield Promise, Minneapolis' Northside Achievement Zone, United Way of Central Minnesota in the St. Cloud area, and the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood. Collectively, the EPC serves more than 120,000 Minnesota children annually. Additional communities have expressed interest in developing and establishing education partnerships.

During the last year the EPC served their communities through coordinated the distribution of hundreds devices and WiFi access to students for distance learning, thousands of boxes of food for families, and hundreds of thousands of dollars in emergency rental relief. The legislatively guaranteed funding for Greater Minnesota EPC members ended in fiscal year 2021, and despite the innovative work of this past year, families across the state continue to struggle. Without additional funding Greater Minnesota communities served by the EPC in particular will struggle.

This request will fund the five EPC members in Greater Minnesota (Austin Aspires, Rochester's Cradle 2 Career, Every Hand Joined in Red Wing, Northfield Promise, and United Way of Central Minnesota in the St. Cloud Area) and Generation Next so they can maintain the coordination of services they have been providing, as well as increase coordinated services and develop deeper partnerships with more families, will increase services in Minneapolis and St. Paul, and will provide opportunities for more partnerships statewide. MDE may use up to 5% for administrative expenses.

Heather Mueller Digitally signed by Heather Mueller
Date: 2021.08.11 17:05:51 -05'00'

Department Head Signature

Date