Propel’s expertise and capital strengthens nonprofits.

Capital Meets Purpose

Propel Nonprofits’ mission is to fuel the impact and effectiveness of nonprofits with guidance, expertise, and capital. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit ourselves, we believe that healthy, effective nonprofits play a fundamental role in stabilizing and anchoring the communities they serve.

Through our capital access program, we provide loans and financial expertise to expand programs or services, bridge cash flow gaps, and purchase or renovate buildings.

- Since January 2018, we have originated $100 million in loans to 234 organizations from around the state.
- 84% of organizations receiving capital primarily serve low-income individuals; 54% of recipients primarily serve BIPOC individuals.
- 15% of organizations receiving capital located in Greater Minnesota.

Built on our knowledge of nonprofits and their business models, our lending team determines the best approach to meet a nonprofit’s needs, and sticks with them to address challenges.

A $310,000 loan in 2020 allowed The Lift Garage (left) to expand their office space and navigate the COVID-19 Pandemic. The organization provides car repairs in the Twin Cities and surrounding area for Minnesotans making up to 150% of the Federal Poverty Guideline.

The leaders at Aurora Waasakone Community of Learners (right) used a line of credit from Propel to help with cash flow while waiting for government grant reimbursements. The school emphasizes inquiry-based learning and targets the three neighboring reservations as well as rural areas around Bemidji.
An appropriation of $497,000 in fiscal year 2025 would be used for capital and technical assistance in support of community-rooted nonprofits that primarily serve historically underserved cultural communities, who are working on community facilities projects. The program would provide:

- Real estate project loans with patience and flexibility
- Intensive technical assistance
- Working capital

We want to be a good partner to the State, and a partner to these nonprofits, by strengthening and protecting the investments made in these projects in 2023. Propel would provide capital and supports to help these projects financially get across the finish line. As a result, nonprofits will increase their impact and support of community members in need.

For more information, contact Garrett Backes
Senior Director of Advancement
gbackes@propelnonprofits.org  |  612.249.6771