

State Programs That Support Minnesotans on the Basis of Racial, Ethnic, or American Indian Identity

Program Evaluation
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Evaluation Scope

Programs supporting Minnesotans on the basis of racial, ethnic, or American Indian identity at:

- Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)
- Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

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Presentation Outline

- Relevant Programs
- Agency Approaches
- Program-Specific Approaches

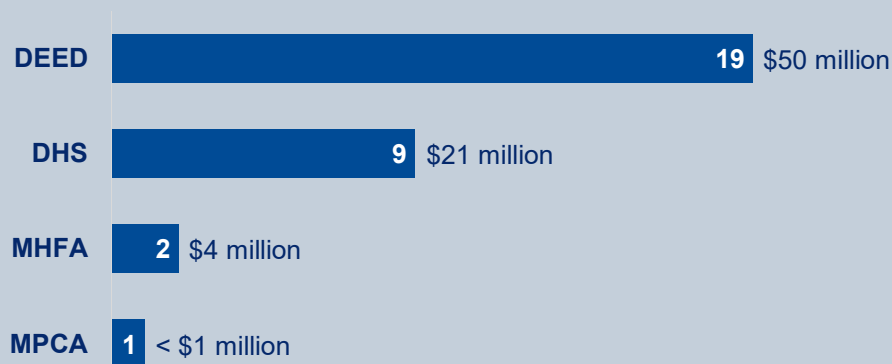
Relevant Programs

- Explicit intention to support Minnesotans on the basis of racial, ethnic, or American Indian identity
- Total of 33 programs (FY2013-2022)
- **31 programs** still operating in FY2022
 - Intention in state law
 - Intention by state agency

Intended Program Beneficiaries, FY2022

	Number of Programs
Specific communities	7
Diverse communities only	1
Additional communities, with set-asides or priorities for diverse communities	5
Diverse communities, plus additional communities	18
<i>Total FY2022 programs</i>	31

Relevant Program Numbers and Grant Expenditures by Agency, FY2022



DEED and DHS Grantees, FY2022

- 295 unique grantees
- Amounts received in FY2022
 - Minimum = \$604
 - Maximum = \$9.7 million
 - Median = \$33,000



Agency Approaches

- Strategic plans
- Compliance with OGM policies related to “diversity in grantmaking”
 - Certain RFP “essential elements”
 - Grantee input incorporated in RFP
 - Publicized broadly
 - Community reviewers

“Essential Elements” of RFPs

- Information about program’s “diversity and inclusion needs”
- Selection criteria and weight, including “diversity in grantmaking”
- Other criteria that contribute to clarity

Review of RFP Templates

- DEED and DHS templates included diversity-related elements
- Templates varied with respect to other “essential elements”
 - DEED template—contained all elements
 - DHS template—some elements missing or incomplete

Recommendation to DHS: Develop an RFP template that includes all essential elements

Program-Specific Approaches: DEED

Main Street COVID-19 Relief Grants

- \$70 million in grants to businesses affected by executive orders
- Set aside of \$10 million for “minority business enterprises”
- “Lottery” program
- Administered partly by “partner organizations”

Main Street: Implemented “Diversity in Grantmaking”

- Outreach and translation
- Structure of random selection process
- Intentional assignment of partner organizations

Main Street: Eligibility Determination Errors

- 3 of 30 awards: wrong determination
- 8 of 30 awards: not sufficient documentation
- Of 30 denials: no wrong determinations, but many record-keeping issues

Recommendation to DEED: Spot check partner organizations' determinations

Program-Specific Approaches: DHS

Cultural and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure Grants (CEMIG)

- In 2018, DHS awarded funding for three purposes:
 - Culturally specific clinical services (for mental health and substance use disorder)
 - Workforce development
 - Expansion of clinical and workforce into Greater MN
- 22 grantees selected (out of 50 applicants)
- DHS allotted \$2.6 million annually (2018-2022)

CEMIG: Implemented “Diversity in Grantmaking”

- Focus on diverse communities
- RFP developed with community input
- Relevant outreach
- Community reviewers

CEMIG: Inadequate Documentation and Reporting

- Failed to adequately document grantee selection
- Quarterly reports missing completely or missing key information

Recommendations to DHS:

- Maintain complete documentation
- Ensure recipients satisfy reporting requirements