



Report to the Minnesota House State Government Finance Committee

Presented by: Michele Jansen, President
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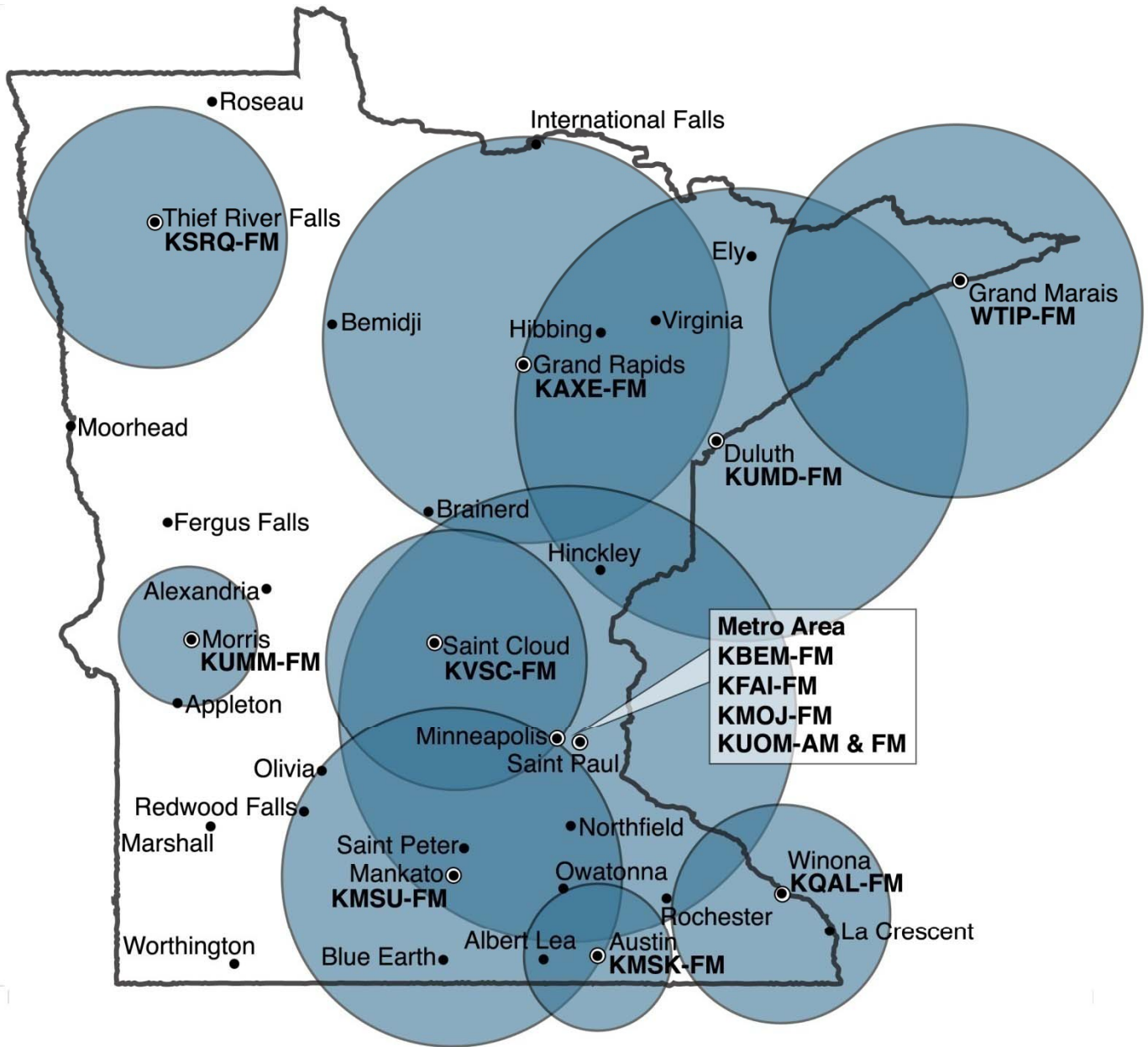
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ampers

Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

	<p>Thief River Falls</p>	<p>Northland Community & Technical College</p>
	<p>Grand Rapids/ Bemidji/Brainerd</p>	<p>Northern Community Radio</p>
	<p>Grand Marais/ Grand Portage/ Gunflint Trail</p>	<p>Cook County Community Radio</p>
	<p>Duluth Metro</p>	<p>University of Minnesota Duluth</p>
	<p>St. Cloud Metro</p>	<p>St. Cloud State University</p>
	<p>Minneapolis/St. Paul</p>	<p>Minneapolis Public Schools</p>
	<p>Minneapolis/St. Paul</p>	<p>University of Minnesota Twin Cities</p>
	<p>Minneapolis/St. Paul</p>	<p>Fresh Air Incorporated</p>
	<p>Minneapolis/St. Paul</p>	<p>The Center for Communication & Development</p>
	<p>Mankato/Austin</p>	<p>Minnesota State University Mankato</p>
	<p>Winona</p>	<p>Winona State University</p>

About Ampers

- Stations are smaller **COMMUNITY** radio stations
- Each station only has 2 to 14 full-time employees
- Stations do not re-broadcast or re-transmit programming from one main station
- Each station is individually programmed for its community
- There are programs in 13 different languages as well as local public affairs programming and diverse music
- The stations all have educational programs
- We are not affiliated with nor do we receive funding from Minnesota Public Radio

Mission

- **Stations exist to serve their communities**
- **Provide timely & accurate reports including severe weather and emergency information**
- **Some stations broadcast city council & school board meetings**
- **All have a very strong commitment to education**
- **Education ranges from on-air programs to in-studio & classroom training**

How We Accomplish Mission

- **Remain entrenched in the local communities**
- **Board of directors and community/programming advisory committees**
- **Identify & fill areas not served by traditional media like KAXE's program in Ojibwe**
- **Work closely with local emergency officials like WTIP did during Ham Lake fire**
- **Create additional partnerships like KVSC's with the Central Minnesota Audio Newspaper**

What We Contribute To Minnesota

- **Emergency information**
- **Forum for Minnesota musicians & artists**
- **Entertainment & preservation of musical arts**
- **Serve those not reached through traditional media: Hmong, Somali & Spanish and more**
- **Promote civic engagement, media democracy & equity**
- **Helped US Census & State Demographers in 2010 to reach those under-represented in 2000 Census**

How We Use Equipment Grants

- **Several stations upgraded emergency alert systems which must be replaced by September**
- **Two stations repaired or replaced their transmitter**
- **Some began or continued transition from analog to digital allowing more programs to be archived**
- **Three stations purchased equipment allowing students to learn on emerging technology**

How We Will Use Future Equipment Grants

- **Replace remaining emergency alert systems which must be replaced by September 2011**
- **Replace failing audio boards**
- **Replace aging transmitters that date back as far as 1973**
- **Add de-icing systems because ice can force a station to low power or even shut down a broadcast**

How We Use Community Service Grants

- **Stations pay their electric bills**
- **Stations pay tower rental fees**
- **Stations pay employee salaries**
- **State dollars also help eight of the eleven stations to secure more federal dollars**

Legacy Funds

- **Eleven of the twelve stations receive Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds**
- **Legacy funds are used to create new programs**
- **Legacy funds cannot be & are not used for general operating expenses**
- **Amendment prohibits Legacy funds from being used as a substitute for existing state funds**

COOK COUNTY
SHERIFF
Mark R. Falk

*143 Gunflint Trail
Grand Marais, MN 55604*

Phone 218-387-3030

Fax 218-387-3032

Date: February 18th, 2010

Re: Public safety need for WTIP

To whom it may concern:

WTIP is an integral part of public safety in Cook County. Our methods of communication are very limited: cellular telephone coverage exists only along the shore of Lake Superior between Schroeder and Grand Marais; there is no local television broadcast company; much of our community accesses the internet by dial-up; and our telephone access is often determined to have no redundant paths when damaged.

The last incident when WTIP proved to be crucial occurred January 26th, 2010. A fiber optic line was cut in Duluth, 110 miles away. The cut line caused our county to lose all long distance telephone capabilities, all broadband/Wi-Fi/dial-up internet access, and all cellular telephone capabilities. It even restricted our telephones to their own calling prefix areas, of which we have four. We had to notify the public to call their local fire departments for all emergency needs, as 911 did not work. This could only be done via NOAA radios and WTIP, and few people own NOAA radios. Therefore, WTIP proved to be the only reliable method to relay to the public to contact their local fire departments with their emergency needs.

The Cook County Sheriff's Office regularly relies on WTIP for communication needs in time of emergencies, and feels that WTIP is an integral part of public safety.

Respectfully,

Chief Deputy Leif Lunde
CCSO



February 18, 2011

Dear Vicki,

I'd like to take this time to let you know the positive impact KUMD has on Animal Allies Humane Society. KUMD's generous support has helped to meet the needs of the homeless pets in our community.

KUMD has partnered with Animal Allies to raise awareness of homeless pets and the need for adopters. From radio interviews during newsworthy events to featuring pets on the radio, the station's works to make the relationship a partnership that benefits the Animal Allies' mission.

In addition to station support, Animal Allies has benefited from individual KUMD staff who participate in organizational events and as volunteers. The culture of KUMD is to share and give back to the community. This is just the kind of active engagement that helped make Duluth a safer city for homeless animals. In 2010, at both Duluth shelters, euthanasia of healthy pets was eliminated.

Thank you for all you do for the community!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Madeleine Robins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Madeleine Robins
Development & Communications Director
Animal Allies Humane Society
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Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

Having grown up in the St. Cloud area, I have known for years just how great the KVSC Sunday night programming is- thank goodness there's something good going on in that area on Sunday nights!! This past Sunday was no exception, except for this is the first Sunday in YEARS that I've actually been in listening range. Every song was a gem, and both my boyfriend and I were impressed with the content. I'll be sure to tune in via the Public Radio tuner every Sunday going forward.

GREAT JOB, GYPSY! And thank you KVSC for continuing with your great content... the whole St. Cloud area is better because of you!

Sarah Lagerstedt

Interior Design Student
Dunwoody College of Technology
Minneapolis, MN

The influence Jazz 88 made on my life?

As a young person, I wasn't sure where I wanted to go for college, or what I wanted to be "when I grew up". However, after participating in the communications program through the radio station...I was given a cut, clear and motivated direction for my life. I was always an excellent student, I graduated high school on the A honor, all 4 years and I had obtained a 3.8GPA; for someone, like myself, with dyslexia, that's a huge accomplishment. Working at the station helped me to see my talents, and I learned how to focus on them. I will always be indebted to Jazz 88. Who knows, where I'd be, or what I would be doing without their direction. I can honestly say "I am doing what I love"!

Sheila Riley

KBEM graduate 1998