



**Mary Jo McGuire**  
Ramsey County Commissioner  
District 2

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55102  
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[www.co.ramsey.mn.us/cb/district2](http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/cb/district2)

**Cate Duin**  
Principal Assistant  
[caitlyn.duin@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:caitlyn.duin@co.ramsey.mn.us)

March 15, 2022

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I am reaching out to share my support for HF 3371/SF 2992, Keystone Community Services' request of \$4 million to establish a new community food site in Ramsey County.

The effects of the pandemic have not subsided and the demand for food resources continues to increase month after month. Before the pandemic, 1 in 11 Minnesotans were experiencing hunger; that number increased to 1 in 9 in 2020. However, our society is not experiencing a food shortage, we have an abundance of food. But to address food insecurity and feed all Minnesotans, we must invest in the organizations that distribute these food resources.

Keystone operates two food shelves in St. Paul that no longer have the space or capacity to serve the East Metro. This new community food site will bring food resources throughout Ramsey County to 50,000 people a year in a dignified manner. Once funding is provided, Keystone will be able to start construction in September and open their new site in Spring 2023.

Keystone has been a steadfast partner with Ramsey County throughout COVID-19. Keystone has responded to the call from to their community by innovating and meeting residents where they are. Keystone hosted over 20 drive through distribution events in 2020 and continued these events into 2021. Keystone also expanded their foodmobile services to deliver healthy and fresh food throughout the community at residences throughout Ramsey County. I believe this to be a great use of taxpayer dollars, as hunger needs continue to grow during this pandemic.

Please support this urgent community request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Jo McGuire".

Mary Jo McGuire  
Ramsey County Commissioner – District 2

**Working With You to Enhance Our Quality of Life**

printed on recycled paper with a minimum of 10% post consumer content





# Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, Inc.

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER



*The  
Lighthouse  
of the  
Community™*

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of Hallie Q. Brown Community, we support the inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

Since the start of the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, food shelves across the state have either had to close because of capacity or pivoted their own staff and resources to address the radical increase in participants. Many of us have banded together sharing resources where we can, accepting referrals from each other and pushing beyond our limits to address a need our network was not intended to handle. Keystone and Hallie Q. have worked together in partnership to address the growing numbers and for that reason, I can affirm the need for an increase in facility and organizational capacity in our organizations, and especially in this area with both of our organizations needing to increase the resources provided to the community.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

Keystone has gathered significant community input from participants, volunteers and community members to design their new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site also has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

As Hallie Q. and Keystone continue to partner, we believe this new site will support the work of not just Keystone, but other food shelves who work in partnership across our network. We encourage you to support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Palmer  
Executive Director





Dear Legislators,

On behalf of Department of Indian Work from Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers, and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between Department of Indian Work from Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Miigwech (Thank you),

*Kelly Miller*

Kelly Miller  
Director of the Department of Indian Work  
651-789-3854, [kmiller@interfaithaction.org](mailto:kmiller@interfaithaction.org)

Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America

www.allianzlife.com

Jasmine M. Jirele  
President & CEO  
Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America  
5701 Golden Hills Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55416

March 11, 2022

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of Allianz Life, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID 19 has destabilized many low income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between Allianz Life and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,



Jasmine M. Jirele



March 8, 2022

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of the City of Roseville, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 and HR 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services' request for \$4 million in funding to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with health food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and suburban Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to over 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices, and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site include a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4 million from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between the City of Roseville and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our community. The increased functionality for Foodmobiles at this proposed new facility is especially important to Roseville because Foodmobiles are a major way our residents are being served by Keystone.

Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Roe  
Mayor



March 4, 2022

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of the team at Second Harvest Heartland, I recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services' \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by Covid-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

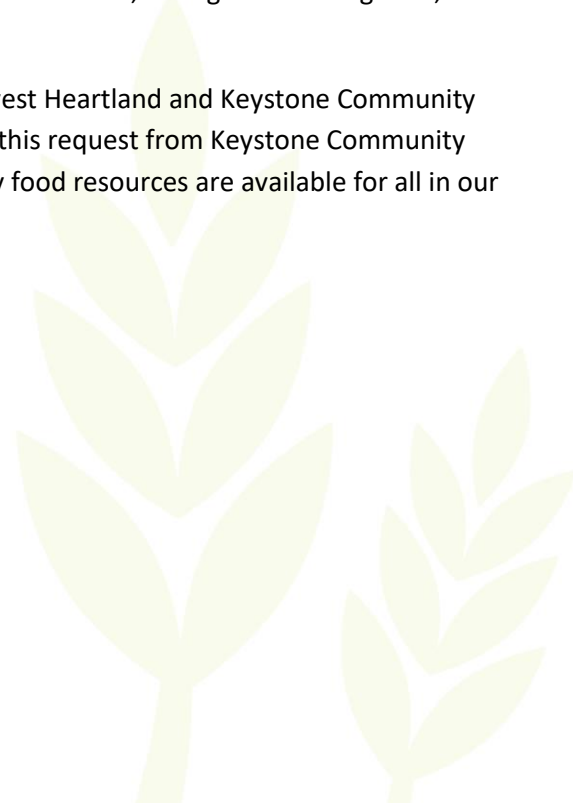
The Second Harvest Heartland team values the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

I look forward to the continued partnership between Second Harvest Heartland and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allison O'Toole".

Allison O'Toole  
Chief Executive Officer  
Second Harvest Heartland





Dear Legislators,

On behalf of The Food Group, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between The Food Group and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

Sophia Lenarz-Coy  
Executive Director



**UNION PARK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

1821 University Avenue, Suite 308, Saint Paul, MN 55104  
651.645.6887 | [info@unionparkdc.org](mailto:info@unionparkdc.org) | [www.unionparkdc.org](http://www.unionparkdc.org)  
*An Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer*

March 4, 2022

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of Union Park District Council, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Food mobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between Union Park District Council and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Respectfully,

Abdulrahman Wako  
Executive Director  
Union Park District Council  
(651) 279-9441 / [wako@unionparkdc.org](mailto:wako@unionparkdc.org)





CITY OF LAUDERDALE  
LAUDERDALE CITY HALL  
1891 WALNUT STREET  
LAUDERDALE, MN 55113  
651-792-7657  
651-631-2066 FAX

March 9, 2022

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of the City of Lauderdale, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 and HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

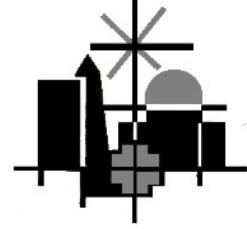
We look forward to the future partnership between the City of Lauderdale and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

Mary Gaasch  
Mayor

bethlehem lutheran in the midway

436 Roy Street North  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
www.bethlehem-midway.org  
651-646-6549



March 8, 2022

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Midway, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Midway and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. I write, in addition, as a neighbor to the new site. I support this community food site as both a leader of a faith community in the neighborhood, and as a residential neighbor.

Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is cursive and appears to read "Rev. Kirsten Fryer".

Rev. Kirsten Fryer  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Midway



# St Michael's

L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, we recommend inclusion of SF 2992 & HF 3371 in any 2022 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services \$4M funding request to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with healthy food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to more than 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources continues to rise due to high food and gas prices and high housing costs. The economic situation brought on by COVID-19 has destabilized many low-income households that continue to need readily available food resources.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site includes a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The site has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$4M from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$4.5M from community foundations, local government grants, businesses, and donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between (INSERT ORG) and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our neighbors. Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$4M to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Ali C. Ferin  
St. Michael's Lutheran Church