



# MN Poverty Call to Action

May 1, 2014

Prosperity for All is a statewide alliance of organizations working toward a more prosperous Minnesota

# ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

MFIP: Minnesota Family Investment Program

TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

AFDC: Aid for Families with Dependent Children

STRIDE: MN's low-income workforce program before MFIP

FSS: Family Stabilization Services

SSI: Supplemental Security Income

UI: Unemployment Insurance



# HISTORY

AFDC to TANF

Affirmative Options Coalition

STRIDE to MFIP

Deficit Reduction Act 2005

Workers and Enrollees as Advocates

Welfare Reform 2.0

Prosperity for All



# BUSTING THE WELFARE-TO-WORK MYTH

Framing the message:

- Enrollees are already workers
- MFIP is Workforce Development for low-income workers
- MFIP enrollees are active
- Investing in striving families makes sense for employers and the economy
- The pool of workers in MFIP could help close the skills gap

# 2014 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

## MFIP Workforce Education Bill

- Allows the freedom to access Adult Basic Education
- Removes roadblocks to post-secondary education
- Removes outdated barriers that limit self-sufficiency

*Currently, the bill language is in both the House and the Senate supplemental appropriations bills. A conference committee is still working on crafting the final bill.*

# WHAT'S NEXT?

Prosperity for All is a multi-year campaign to make MFIP the best program it can be for low-wage workers in Minnesota. Partners and organizations will work together to craft legislation for 2015 and beyond.

With new access to training and education plus robust supports for success, workers enrolled in MFIP will meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century employer.



# ENDORISING ORGANIZATIONS

African American Leadership Forum	Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
Alexandra House	Minnesota Budget Project
American Indian OIC	Minnesota Community Action Partnership
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation	Minnesota Valley Action Council
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency	North Shore Horizons
Avenues for Youth	Northwest Community Action Agency
Bluff Country Family Resources	Open Access Communications
Catholic Charities of St Paul and Minneapolis	People Serving People
Children's Defense Fund - MN	Rise, Inc
Douglas County Salvation Army	SEMCAC
Emerge Community Development	Simpson Housing Services
Employment Action Center	Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council
Goodwill Easter Seals	St Paul Promise Neighborhood
Growth and Justice	St Stephen's Human Services
Heartland Community Action	Start Today Hennepin
Hmong American Partnership	The Arc Greater Twin Cities
HOPE Coalition	Three Rivers Community Action
House of Charity	Tri-CAP
Hunger Solutions Minnesota	Tri-Valley Community Action
KOOTASCA Community Action	Twin Cities LISC
Lakes and Pines Community Action	Urban Community Solutions
Lakes and Prairies Community Action	Wayside House
Legal Services Advocacy Project	West Central MN Communities Action
Lifetrack Resources	Western Community Action
Lutheran Social Services MN	Women Planting Seeds

# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Endorse the campaign
- Ask your employer to endorse the campaign
- Sign up for weekly updates for news and action steps
- Tell us your stories of MFIP
  
- For breaking news, like Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless on social media: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @mnhomelessco







## Contact information for Prosperity for All

**Minnesota**  
**Coalition** *for the*  
**Homeless**

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### Legal Services Advocacy Project



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