



**Montana Nonprofit
Association**

Nonprofits are the Bedrock of Montana Communities

The nonprofit sector is at the heart of healthy, vibrant communities

Health services, after-school programs, museums, food pantries, affordable housing, land conservation, faith communities, animal shelters, outdoor recreation, community theaters, and so much more are made possible through the work of nonprofits.

- More than 8,100 charitable nonprofits operate across every county, including both wage-paying employers and all-volunteer community groups
- 38% of charitable nonprofits in Montana are based in rural areas

Nonprofits are economic drivers, help keep government small, and bring efficiencies and resources to their communities.

- 12.6% of all wages in Montana are paid by nonprofits, the highest of any industry
- 60,181 Montanans are employed by charitable nonprofits, nearly 12% of the workforce
- 2/3 of staffed nonprofits have budgets below \$500,000

Montana nonprofits partner with state government, providing services that advance the priorities of the state in serving Montana communities.

- 54% of MNA members work in direct partnership with the State of Montana to deliver social services, manage conservation and recreation projects, bring arts and cultural opportunities to communities, and more
- Nonprofits use private philanthropy to stretch public resources and serve communities - 78% of MNA members that receive government grants report that public funds make up less than 50% of their total revenue
- In total, 667 Montana nonprofits receive local, state, and/or federal government grants
- Nonprofits are accountable to local communities, led by volunteer Boards of Directors and generously supported by local communities

Sources: [MNA Montana Nonprofit Economic Impact Report, January 2025](#), [MNA Member Survey 2026](#), [IRS Exempt Organization Master List 2026](#), [Potential Impacts of Federal Cuts to Montanans & Montana's Economy, 2025](#)



Montana Nonprofit Association

A statewide association dedicated to the strength and excellence of nonprofits in Montana.

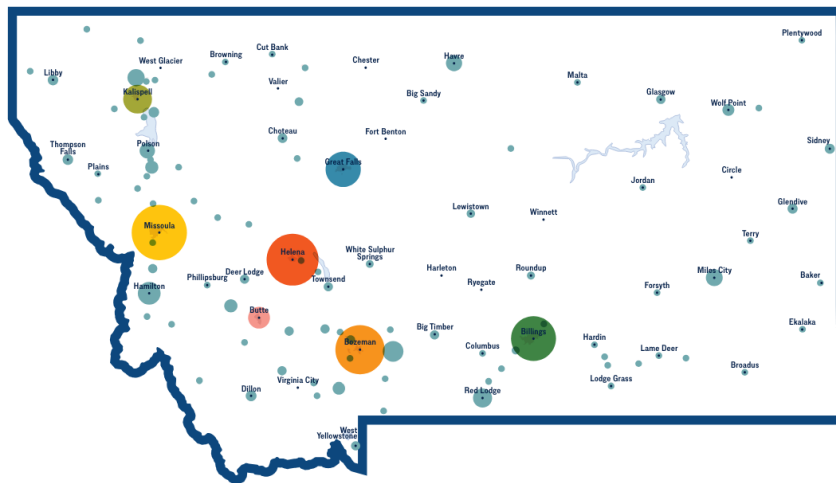
Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA) is made up of nearly 750 charitable nonprofit members, from the smallest all-volunteer nonprofits to some of the largest organizations in Montana.

MNA's member organizations provide **essential services to those in need** and **build and protect the Montana we love.**

- MNA members pursue mission-driven work in education (13%), human services (13%), youth development (13%), arts and humanities (9%), healthcare and mental health (9%), economic development (9%), advocacy and civic engagement (8%), environment and conservation (7%), foundations and grantmaking (6%), housing (4%), and other areas (9%)
- 40% of our members primarily serve people living in rural communities

MNA supports a strong nonprofit sector by:

- **Advocating** on issues impacting the nonprofit sector;
- **Saving nonprofits money** and reducing administrative costs through group buying programs and member discounts;
- **Building nonprofit leadership** and management capacity; and
- **Connecting nonprofit and community leaders** through information sharing and networking.



Key challenges facing nonprofits, impacting their ability to serve Montana communities:

- Rising community needs, as the cost-of-living increases
- Reductions in government funding, individual and corporate giving not keeping pace
- Workforce challenges including the lack of affordable housing and childcare that makes employee recruitment and retention a challenge