



INDIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA (ICAM)
A NON- PROFIT ORGANIZATION, 501(C)(3)

WWW.ICAMN.ORG

March 10th 2022
To The Committee Chair

Dear Rep FueLee,

On behalf of Indian Cultural Association of Minnesota (ICAM), I write this letter of endorsement to support SEWA-Aifw and their endearing services. ICAM is a 501-C (3) organization with the purpose to connect, educate and collaborate with the Asisan Indian population in Rochester and surrounding regions. As the Vice President and one of the Board of Directors of ICAM, I have had the privilege to be part of some of the initiatives of SEWA-Aifw. We are grateful for the collaboration that we have with SEWA-Aifw to meet the educational and service needs of our community. I have collaborated with SEWA-Aifw to provide supportive services for victims of domestic violence in my previous role as manager of Victim Services program at the Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association (IMAA) in Rochester, MN.

This initiative allows SEWA-Aifw to acquire, renovate, and equip the SEWA-AIFW Cultural Service Center in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. Not only will this project create a safe space for the South Asian communities in Minnesota, but it will also increase SEWA's capacity to assist, train, and provide overall support to these groups. I look forward to supporting this project and ongoing work in our community. SEWA has provided invaluable services to low-income and limited English speaking South Asians in Minnesota since 2004.

I appreciate that Sewa-Aifw provide free and bilingual health screenings, SNAP outreach, Meals-on-Wheels, mental health counseling, youth sports and leadership programs, and support to survivors of sexual or domestic violence. In recent years SEWA has consistently increased the number of people served yearly. By creating the SEWA-AIFW Cultural Service Center, SEWA can continue to grow, meeting the needs of our South Asian communities. In a year where the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to lay bare Minnesota's existing racial disparities, opportunities centering Minnesota's communities of color are more critical than ever.

I am thrilled to hear about your proposal for the Non Profit Capitol Investment Project Grant to support SEWA's purchase and renovation of the Cultural Service Center. I value SEWA's dedication to providing such indispensable services to the South Asian communities of our district.

Congratulations on this work. I look forward to supporting this project as you continue your work. Please let me know if you have further questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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