



Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment

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Dear Chair Noor, Speaker Hortman, and Senator Hoffman,

As your constituent and the Executive Director of Reviving Sisterhood, I am writing to support HF2019 which is being heard in the Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy Committee on Wednesday, March 17th. This bill would appropriate funding to Propel Nonprofits for the purpose of regranting to small nonprofit organizations serving historically underserved communities. As nonprofits we have struggled with the impact of COVID-19. Our communities need us more than ever as we seek to recover from the devastating and disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on BIPOC communities.

My organization (Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment) benefited from a grant from Propel Nonprofits in 2019. This funding has helped us build the infrastructure and program capacity to serve the community. This investment was especially valuable to us as we adapted our organization and programs to respond to the demands brought about by the public health crisis of COVID-19. During the pandemic, uprising and in the midst of a presidential election and census, we needed to have a strong digital presence and needed the capabilities to administer that. Because there were no in-person events, everything had to go online including keeping our communities safe, mutual aid coordination, voting from home, and completing the census. We needed to also keep our systems and people safe from Zoom bombing, doxxing, and online harassment. We were also able to expand our services to beyond Twin Cities metro residents and reach people across the State.

Beyond the funding, Propel provided us additional technical assistance which has helped us strengthen our capacity. Without the NIGP we would have a challenging time accessing this kind of funding despite the important services that we are providing for our community.

For the above reasons, I ask that you support HF2019. Investment in the nonprofit sector is important because we provide essential services in our communities and partner with the public and private sector. I would be happy to share more about our story. You may contact me at 612-810-3072. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nausheena Hussain".

Nausheena Hussain,
Executive Director