

MNCEO 2021 Donor Statement



The future of business belongs to everyone.

Imagine a paradise where every company offers its employees a chance to own their fair share. A utopia with people of every color, creed, gender, orientation,

and belief shaping the workplace that works for them. This is the dream of employee ownership, and it's MNCEO's vision for Minnesota.

Right now, a business closure crisis is crushing our state. The pandemic made it much worse, but MNCEO is your chance to help make it better. Over half of all Minnesota businesses are owned by baby boomers. They're ready to retire, except most of them don't have an exit plan. They'll scramble to sell the businesses they've spent years building, but 80% of them will fail to find a buyer.

Few will stop to consider employee ownership as their exit plan, even though selling a business to its employees solves the buyer problem. It keeps the business, and its wealth, rooted locally. Most importantly, it creates a durable legacy of equity and prosperity. With employee ownership, this closure crisis is a rich opportunity. But we must advocate for it now, while this wave of retirement slams our local businesses. We need to turn the tide before another Minnesota business dies.

That's why MNCEO built a network of advisors with experience in employee ownership. Through tireless outreach, we've pulled together the state's top lawyers, accountants, appraisers, and lenders with employee ownership knowledge. We also have in-house professionals to chat with MN business owners and answer their questions. Plus, our informative articles, videos, and events can demystify employee ownership for anyone looking to learn more.

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We are the central hub of employee ownership in Minnesota. MNCEO built this web of support because we believe creating equity for everyone begins with a radical transformation of our business landscape.

Your donation is an investment in employee ownership, an investment in every working Minnesotan.

Business models like an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), an Employee Ownership Trust (EOT), or a worker-cooperative (WOC) make for great exit plans. A transition to one of these models isn't much more complicated than an outright sale. These three options each create a way for employees to own a part of their company.

Transitioning a business to employee ownership can create resilience, improve morale and retention, and generate a huge amount of community goodwill. It can pull us out of the closure crisis, one business at a time, while creating more equity for every working-class Minnesotan.

Give today to transform Minnesota into a land that works for all.

