

The <u>Northland Foundation</u> and <u>Minnesota Compass</u> invite the public to participate in listening sessions in northeastern Minnesota. These free sessions will offer information about Minnesota Compass data and tools for the <u>Northland Region</u>, including cities such as <u>Grand</u> <u>Rapids</u> and <u>Hibbing</u>. They will also provide an opportunity for attendees to share ideas for how Minnesota Compass can improve data to meet community needs.

Two listening sessions are scheduled. Breakfast is included. Attendees should RSVP using the registration link for the session of their choice.

Minnesota Compass Northland Region Listening Sessions

Free but space is limited. Please register at <u>www.northlandfdn.org/convening.</u>

Grand Rapids: Tuesday, September 12, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Blandin Foundation, 100 N. Pokegama Ave, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

> Hibbing: Wednesday, September 13, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Park Hotel, 1402 E. Howard Street, Hibbing, MN 55746

Minnesota Compass provides free, accessible information for communities and tracks trends on topics such as education, economy and workforce, health, housing, and public safety throughout the state. The goal is to provide data and information for Minnesotans to identify, understand, and act on issues that affect our communities. Local Minnesota communities school boards, city and county planners, community health boards, non-profits, social service agencies, health care organizations, and philanthropy—use Minnesota Compass data to guide their work.

Minnesota Compass is working on providing greater Minnesota communities with more data and in an interactive format. They recently launched tools that allow web visitors to build and draw customized data profiles for areas in and <u>Duluth</u>, the <u>IRRRB service area</u>, <u>Minneapolis-St. Paul</u>, and <u>Twin Cities</u> and are working to expand the tools to all of Minnesota. This will allow individuals to custom-build demographic, social, and economic data profiles for their Greater Minnesota community.

"The tools Minnesota Compass provides help a wide array of people to understand and respond to what is happening in our region, and by gathering input from stakeholders in these listening sessions, we have the opportunity to help make these tools even better," said Tony Sertich, President of the Northland Foundation.

For more information, contact Ellen Wolter at <u>ellen.wolter@wilder.org</u> or 651-280-2663, or Erik Torch at <u>erik@northlandfdn.org</u> or 218-723-4040