



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 3, 2012

**Contact:** Kate Sattler  
Marketing & Communications Director  
The Minneapolis Foundation  
(612) 672-3835  
ksattler@mplsfoundation.org

**The Minneapolis Foundation Announces Jean Adams'  
New Role as Chief Operating Officer and New Trustees**

Minneapolis – Jean Adams has been appointed Chief Operating Officer at The Minneapolis Foundation. She will oversee the implementation of the Foundation's strategic plan in addition to managing the financial health of the organization. Since joining the Foundation six years ago, Jean has lead the Finance, Administration, and Communications department as Vice President. Prior to joining the Foundation, she served in leadership roles at the Northwest Area Foundation and Minnesota Charities Review Council. She currently serves as President of the Council of Foundations' Fiscal and Administrative Officers Group, and is a former member of the Minnesota Council on Foundations' audit committee. Jean is deeply passionate about issues impacting women and girls and currently serves as Treasurer on the Women's Foundation board. Jean graduated from the University of St. Thomas with a B.A. in Business Administration and has completed graduate programs at the Carlson School of Management and the University of St. Thomas.

Joining our Board of Trustees are Ann Burns, Suzanne Koeplinger, Brian Pietsch, and Steven Rothschild.

**Ann Burns** is the chair of the Trust, Estate & Charitable Planning group at Gray Plant Mooty. Ann represents multi-generational families of wealth throughout the country, as well as individual and corporate trustees in estate and tax planning and in fiduciary controversies in state and federal courts. Ann is a mover and shaker in the legal community and was selected as the Minneapolis St. Paul Business Journal's "Women in Business—Women to Watch" award in 2006. Ann is a longtime support of the Greater Twin Cities United Way and is a past chair and a current member of the Women's Leadership Counsel of the United Way of Minnesota. She received her undergraduate degree from Iowa State University and her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

**Suzanne Koeplinger** is the Executive Director of the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC), a nonprofit that provides gender and culturally based services for American Indian women and their families. She is widely recognized as a local and national expert on sex trafficking and gender violence. Suzanne is a transformational leader and is involved with a wide range of initiatives and organizations that address economic and social disparities in our community. She serves on the boards of ArtSpace, American Indian Community Development Corporation, and Bdote Learning Center. She is also a member of the Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force and FBI Civil Rights Advisory Group. In 2005, she was named a Phillips Neighborhood Champion and was named the Sheila Wellstone Gold Watch Award for gender violence advocacy by WATCH in 2008. Suzanne received her B.A. Theatre Arts from University of Idaho and her M.A. in Leadership from Augsburg College.

**Brian Pietsch** is Senior Vice President, State Government Affairs and Community Relations at Ameriprise Financial. During his tenure, he has led the company in developing Metropass, a groundbreaking transportation program with the local transit authority. The undertaking has been enormously successful and over 200 businesses participate in this program today. Brian currently serves on the boards of the Walker Art Center, Downtown Improvement District, Weisman Art Museum Development Committee, Minneapolis Downtown Council, and the Hennepin Theatre

Trust. Brian holds an MBA from the University of Saint Thomas - School of Business and a J.D. from Hamline University School of Law.

**Steven Rothschild** is the Founder and Chairman of the Board of Twin Cities RISE!, a nationally-recognized workforce development program that serves primarily men from communities of color. He is an Advisory Board member of the Hubert H Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota, a Director and Chair of the Community Impact Committee of the Greater Twin Cities United Way, and a Director of Minnesota Public Radio. He previously served on the boards of Bridge for Runaway Youth, the Minnesota Opera and the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts. In 2001, he was honored with the "Contributions to Philanthropy Award" by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Minnesota Chapter. Steven recently published *The Non Nonprofit: For-Profit Thinking for Nonprofit Success*, a book on how business principals can support nonprofit success. Steven earned an M.B.A. degree from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and an A.B. degree in Economics from Franklin and Marshall College.

These individuals bring breadth of experiences and expertise to The Minneapolis Foundation Board of Trustees, which is comprised of over two dozen civic and corporate leaders from across the Twin Cities. Many thanks and farewell to **Mark Chronister, Russ Nelson, Eric Jolly, and Tony Williamson** for serving on our Board of Trustees and for sharing their time and talent with our community.

We're also pleased to share that **Michael Wright** will join 5 other members of our Investments Committee. He will work with the Committee and the Foundation's Manager of Investments to oversee all aspects of the \$500+ million in invested assets, including asset allocation, rebalancing, risk analysis, manager selection and performance analysis. Michael is Lecturer at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management and he is a Chartered Financial Analyst. His extensive experience capital markets experience, rigorous analysis of investment strategies, and broad experience in a variety of asset types will be an invaluable addition to the Foundation's Investments Committee. Michael is involved with the Schubert Club and the Arts Partnership, among other organizations. He received his B.S. in Finance from Arizona State University, his MBA from Northern Illinois University, his Chartered Financial Analyst designation in 1989.

###

***The Minneapolis Foundation** helps people make a difference in our community and on the causes they care about. We offer services to make charitable giving more convenient, tax-smart, and rewarding and provide information, advice and connections to help donors make a greater community impact.*

*Established in 1915, The Minneapolis Foundation now manages more than \$600 million in total assets, administers more than 1,100 charitable funds and distributes more than \$30 million in grants each year. In addition, The Minneapolis Foundation plays a civic leadership role, sparking constructive action and dialogue on critical issues.*