



# Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Feb 23, 2026

Smart Brevity® count: 4 mins...1071 words

## In today's February 23, 2026 Update:

- **Minnesota ICE Operations:** [Recovery Resources Available](#)
- **Share Your Perspective:** [Hospitality Conditions Survey Now Open](#)
- **Cause to Celebrate:** [MSP Business Journal Recognizes Morrissey Hospitality's Richard Dobransky as a Most Admired CEO](#)
- **Real Impact, Real MN Campaign:** [Communities Rally for Relief](#)
- **Operators:** [Share Your Paid Leave Experience](#)
- **2026 Advocacy Opportunities:** [Register Today](#) for 2026 Advocacy Opportunities
- **ServSafe Offerings:** [Find A Class Near You](#)
- **In the News**

Is your organization interested in sponsorship? [Email us](#) to learn more.

## ICE Operations in Minnesota: Access Recovery



**Relief resources available:** As Minnesota businesses begin the path of recovery post Operation Metro Surge, multiple relief efforts have launched, and more relief initiatives are on the horizon.

### Resources currently available:

- **The Salt Cure Restaurant Recovery Fund:** This fund, organized by the [Minneapolis Foundation](#) in partnership with local restaurant collectives, aims to aid Minnesota restaurants, bars, and catering businesses specifically recover from economic hardship caused by Opearition Metro Surge.

◦ **FOODSERVICE OPERATORS:** [APPLY HERE](#)

- **The Economic Response Fund:** This fund, also organized by the [Minneapolis Foundation](#), will provide short-term stabilization grants to help businesses address urgent needs caused by reduced revenue, workforce disruptions, temporary closures, or safety and security concerns. Grants are intended to support businesses over a 30- to 60-day period.

◦ **SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS:** [APPLY HERE](#)

- **LEDC Emergency Relief Fund:** This fund, launched by the [Latino Economic Development Center \(LEDC\)](#), originally aimed to support Saint Paul East Side Latino-owned businesses facing sudden financial strain, but now invites all immigrant-owned businesses to apply as they coordinate further funding opportunities.

◦ **IMMIGRANT-OWNED OPERATORS:** [APPLY HERE](#)

**Resources on the horizon:** As of the start of session last Tuesday, potential state relief is processing through the legislature. Beyond state relief, various other programs are still finalizing their processes.

**Go deeper:** We've been compiling a list of resources for those most impacted by Minnesota's federal occupation on our [Immigration Resources](#) webpage.

[Browse Our Resources](#)

## Perspective Needed: Hospitality Conditions Survey Now Open!



THE LODGING, RESTAURANT, RESORT  
AND CAMPGROUND ASSOCIATION

### HOSPITALITY CONDITIONS SURVEY FEBRUARY 2026

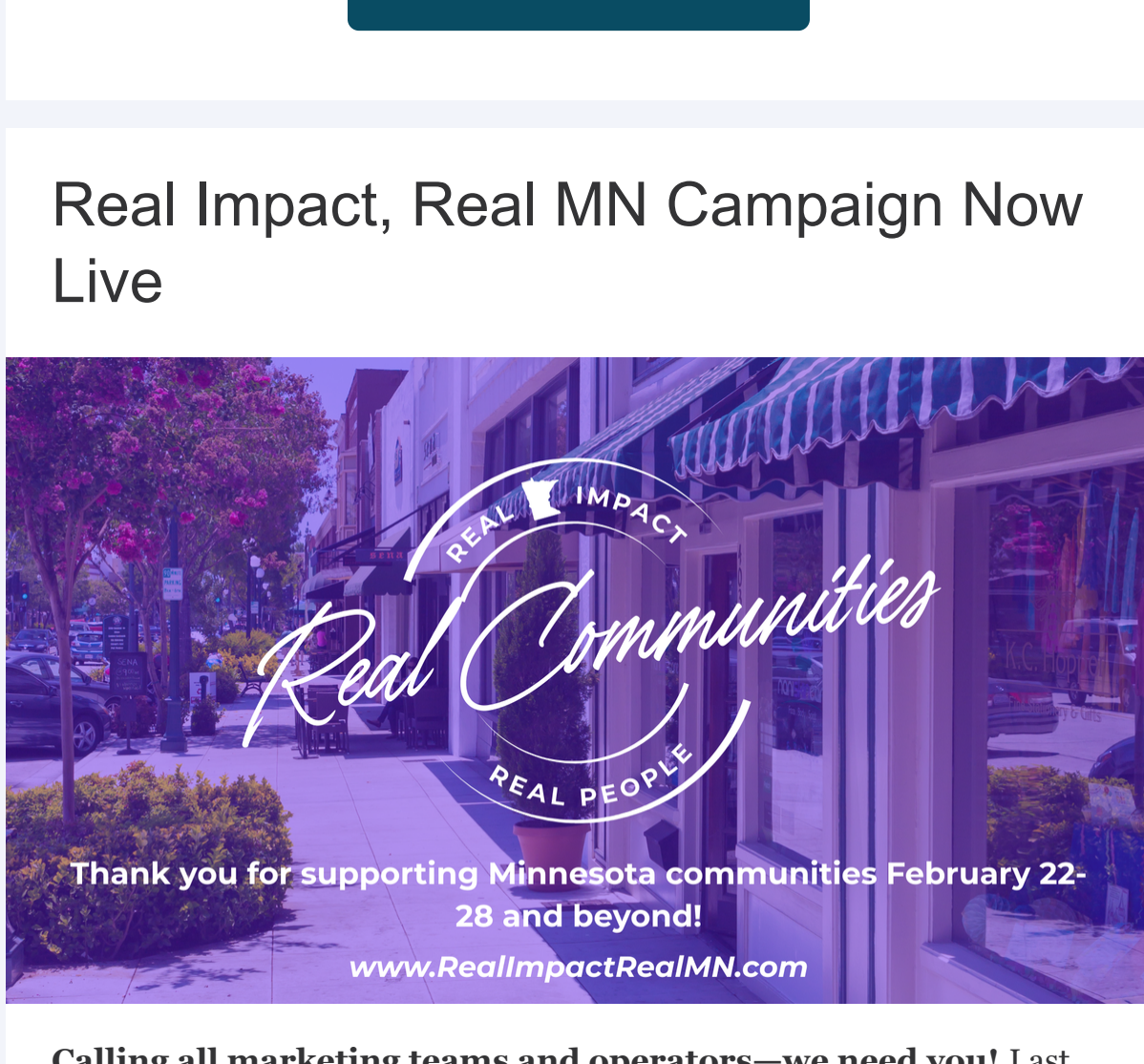
**Your input is needed!** Hospitality Minnesota has once again joined forces with the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis for our [Hospitality Conditions Survey](#).

- **Why it matters:** Your responses help the Minneapolis Fed and Hospitality Minnesota educate business leaders, policymakers, and the public about current conditions

**What your participation revealed last time:** [Key takeaways from September's Hospitality Conditions Survey](#) painted a clear picture of an industry navigating declining revenue, harmful tariffs, and compounding obstacles — evidence we put to work in every policy conversation.

[Take the Survey!](#)

## Morrissey Hospitality's Richard Dobransky Recognized as a Most Admired CEO



Most Admired CEO Richard Dobransky of Morrissey Hospitality speaks after receiving his award.

**Congratulations are in order!** Richard Dobransky, CEO of Morrissey Hospitality, [has been recognized as one of this year's Most Admired CEOs](#) by Minneapolis / St. Paul Business Journal.

- **Why it matters:** Since 2023, Dobransky has led 1,000+ employees across landmarks like The Saint Paul Hotel and Saint Paul RiverCentre. His leadership is defined by a "people-first" philosophy forged during the pandemic.

### About Richard:

- **Global roots:** His career spans Sydney, Denver, and D.C., including the high-profile redevelopment of Denver's Union Station.
- **Empathetic leadership:** Dobransky has been a vocal advocate for "work-life harmony," evolving Morrissey's culture to better support and retain staff.
- **Workforce development:** He helped establish the [Minnesota Training Partnership's culinary program](#), creating vital employment pathways through DEED.
- **Community Pillars:** He serves on the boards of Visit Saint Paul and the Downtown St. Paul Alliance, while volunteering for Every Meal and the Boys & Girls Clubs.

**The Bottom Line:** Richard's blend of global experience and local heart is driving Morrissey—and Minnesota hospitality—toward a more sustainable and visionary future.

[Read More About Richard](#)

## Real Impact, Real MN Campaign Now Live



**Calling all marketing teams and operators—we need you!** Last week, nearly a dozen communities joined the [Real Impact Real MN](#) campaign—a statewide initiative designed to encourage Minnesotans to "show up" for the hospitality and retail spaces that anchor their communities.

**Join the party:** As with any social initiative, the more the merrier. We've made it easy to get involved. Here is how you can participate and capture the momentum:

- **Download the Toolkit:** Access [ready-to-use social media graphics, posters, and messaging](#) to let your customers know you are part of the Real Impact Real MN movement.

◦ **Pro-tip:** When finalizing your designs, replace *[Community]* in the initiative's [editable canva files](#) with your own city, town, economic district, or area. Personalize the designs further by replacing the background provided with community-specific imagery.

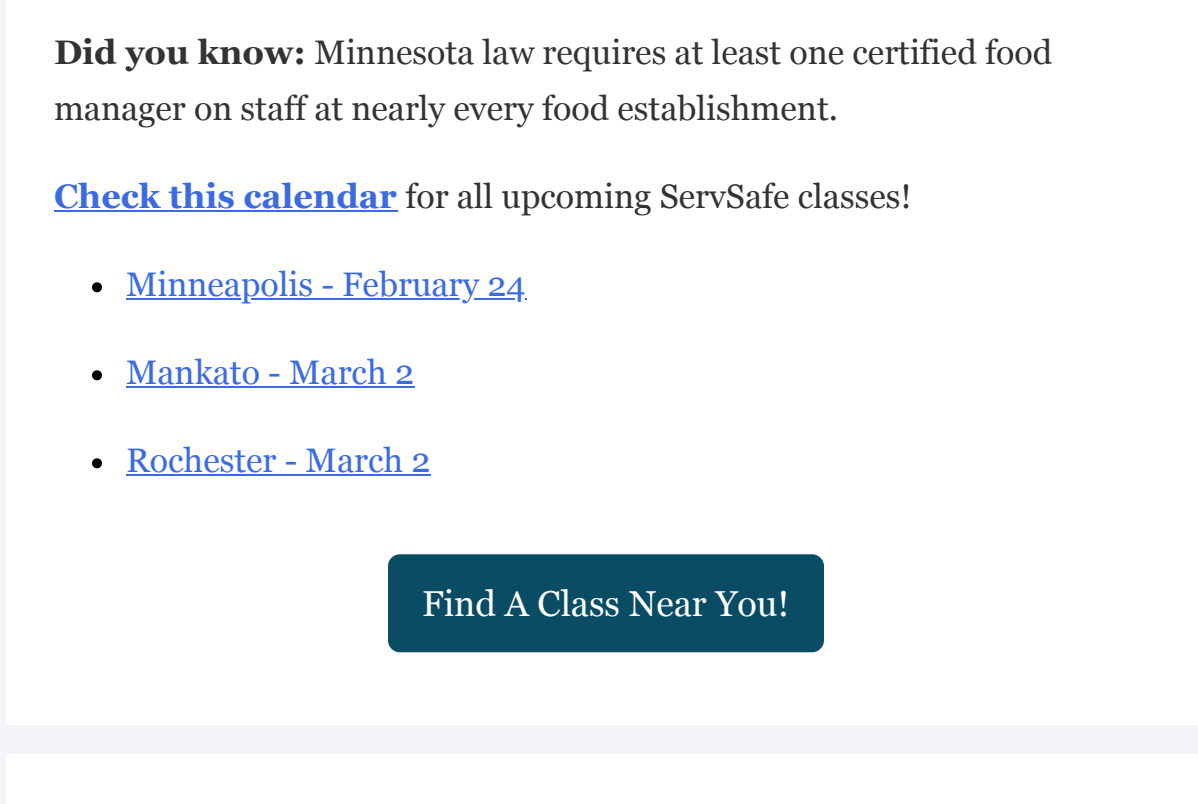
- **Share Your Story:** Use the campaign hashtags to highlight your team and the "real people" behind your doors. Putting a face to your business creates a powerful incentive for locals to visit.

- **Engage Your Community:** Partner with your local Chamber of Commerce or neighborhood association to create "Real Impact" specials or events during the week of Feb 22–28.

**Strength in Numbers:** The [Real Impact, Real MN campaign](#) is powered across the state by [Minnesota Retailers](#), [Hospitality Minnesota](#), local chambers of commerce, cities, neighborhood organizations, statewide associations and more!

[Learn More!](#)

## Operators: Share Your Paid Leave Experience



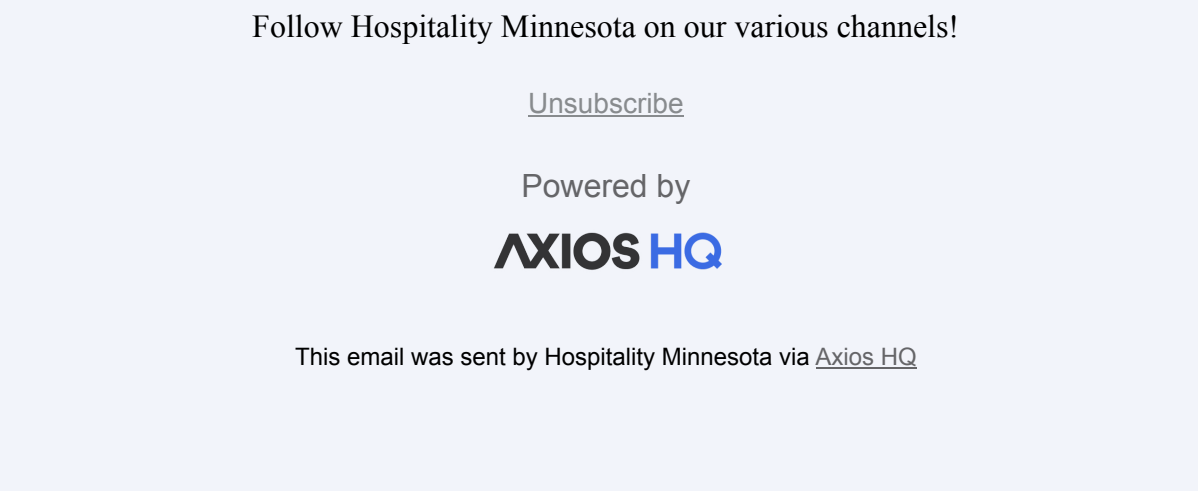
**We need your data.** Hospitality Minnesota is collecting member feedback on the state's Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) program to shape our advocacy strategy for the 2026 legislative session.

**The big picture:** Legislators need to hear more than just "it's difficult"—they need specific data on:

- Expected administrative burdens.
- The financial impact of the 0.88% and 0.66% premiums.
- Staffing challenges related to the 20-week maximum leave.

[Share Your Experience](#)

## REGISTER TODAY: 2026 Advocacy Opportunities



**Become the voice of your industry.** Registrations for all three 2026 advocacy opportunities are live — and every seat at the table strengthens our collective impact.

- **ALL MINNESOTA OPERATORS:** [2026 Day at the Capitol | April 8, 2026 | Saint Paul](#)

- **RESTAURANT OPERATORS:** [Restaurants Act Public Affairs Conference | March 10-12, 2026 | Washington D.C.](#)

- **LODGING OPERATORS:** [Hotels on the Hill | May 12-23, 2026 | Washington D.C.](#)

**The bottom line:** Policy gets made with or without us. These are your chances to make sure it's *with* us.

## ServSafe Classes Near You



**Did you know:** Minnesota law requires at least one certified food manager on staff at nearly every food establishment.

[Check this calendar](#) for all upcoming ServSafe classes!

- [Minneapolis - February 24](#)
- [Mankato - March 2](#)
- [Rochester - March 2](#)

[Find A Class Near You!](#)

## In the News

- [Minneapolis City Council renews liquor licenses for two hotels allegedly housing ICE agents](#) | MPR News
- [Omar, Craig report empty Whipple ICE detention center as fewer than 500 agents remain](#) | MPR News

## See you back here next week!

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