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IFF's Minneapolis Report Helps Education Stakeholders Direct Resources
Coalition Will Use Data to Ensure Every Child Has Access to a Quality School

Minneapolis, MN—An IFF study will guide Minnesota Comeback, a coalition of education and philanthropic leaders committed to transforming K-12 education in Minneapolis, as it works to ensure that every child in Minneapolis has access to a quality school. Minnesota Comeback (formerly the Education Transformation Initiative) commissioned the recently released study, which evaluates the city's 99 public district and public charter schools with Multiple Measurement Rating scores.

With 25 public and charter schools providing 11,116 high-performing seats for Minneapolis' 41,933 students, the coalition's plan will focus on creating 30,000 seats in quality schools. Nearly half the shortage is located in 11 highest-need areas in northwest and central east Minneapolis, according to IFF's study report, *Opportunity Gap – Defined*.

"One of our country's biggest challenges remains meeting the educational needs of all our children — no matter where they live or what their family's income," IFF CEO Joe Neri said. "Through IFF's research and education policy, we help cities like Minneapolis by identifying the location and performance of its schools and then determining which children don't have the opportunity to attend a quality school. With this baseline, education stakeholders can begin the work of creating quality school options where they are needed most."

Other findings include:

- 64 percent of high-performing seats are provided by 12 district schools
- 36 percent of high-performing seats are provided by 13 charter schools
- A high proportion of the 7,685 who commute outside of the city each day enroll in high-performing charter and district schools outside of Minneapolis Public Schools
- Only 18 percent of the 16,574 MPS students who stay in the city but commute beyond their attendance area opt for a high-performing school
- 41 percent of all seats were in the two lowest performance categories

The study also observes that the best options for increasing high-performing seats include replicating or expanding the strategies of quality schools that successfully serve low-income populations, and accelerating the performance of the 12,700 seat in mid-performing schools.

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About IFF

IFF is a mission-driven lender, real estate consultant, and developer that helps communities thrive by creating opportunities for low-income populations and individuals with disabilities. From child care to senior housing, IFF works closely with clients from every sector, offering affordable, flexible financing; full-scale real estate consulting; and community development services. Since 1988, we have made over \$536 million in loans, leveraged \$1.9 billion in community investments, and grown our total managed assets to \$371 million.