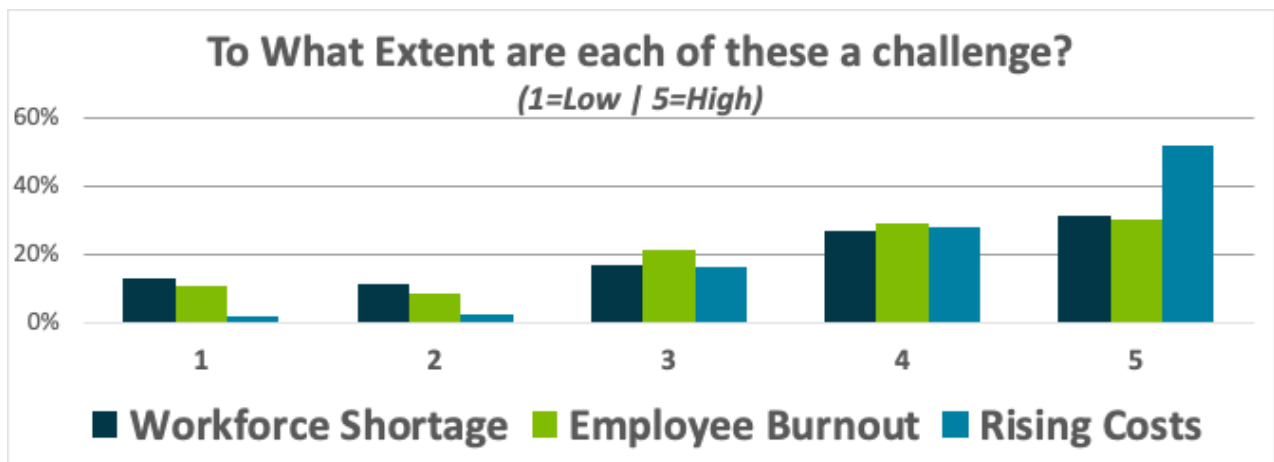


## Montana Nonprofit Association

MNA sent a survey to 708 nonprofit members the week of June 7, 2022 to gain an understanding of the top challenges impacting Montana nonprofits at this moment. The following highlights come from 183 responses from every subsector. The top challenges identified are: **workforce shortages, rising costs, and employee fatigue and burnout.**



### Why does this matter?

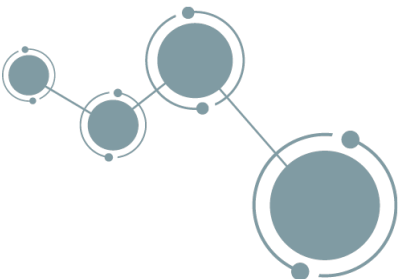
- 1) Nonprofit organizations are more than 11% of Montana’s workforce and help drive a strong economy.
- 2) Nonprofit organizations increase the quality of life for Montana residents and community “visit-ability” for tourists – both of which contribute to Montana’s economy.
- 3) Nonprofit organizations stand in the gap where business and government will not or cannot.
- 4) Nonprofits lessen the burden of government.

### MNA MEMBER COMMENTS

Of the 994 comments received, here are just a few from Montana Nonprofit Association members.

“This year we had to reduce our programs almost by half.”

“We fiscally sponsor nearly 20 nonprofits. They are all experiencing cost challenges.”



“It's damn near impossible for us to grow because rentals are literally nonexistent in the Swan Valley right now. We've had 45-55 applicants, with a dozen WAY overqualified, for every position we've advertised in the last two years. However, finding housing, especially "affordable" housing, has been incredibly challenging.”

“Food, gas, repairs, materials - everything is up 30% or more...we also had to give a 10% across- the-board salary increase, and are planning on two more in the next two years in order to keep our incredible team at the table. More than 50% of my staff have been being recruited to other organizations! We're not just competing in Montana anymore either.”

“We lost a few volunteers because they cannot afford gas to do their volunteer work. We have some volunteers asking for gas reimbursement.”

“The need is so great and the resources so small. Staff often feel they are carrying the weight of the world on their shoulders.”

“In an unstable market with rising interest rates and a huge increase in the cost of living, federal funding programs need to be supported AND we need to incentivize philanthropy as much as possible for those who can and are willing to make a difference.”

“If Congress wants to help America, more funding for non-profits is the quickest, easiest and most effective way to do it. We're in these communities, know their needs and already have an infrastructure in place to get it done, but we can't do anything without support.”

“Nonprofits are essential for leveraging private dollars with public funds and services to have a bigger impact. Nonprofits make change happen.”

“Montana's nonprofits are the necessary third leg of the economic stool in Montana. The nonprofit sector is a vital part of Montana's future and should be strengthened...the Department of Commerce ought to have a Nonprofit Undersecretary.”

“Crafting and implementing lasting, upstream, prevention-focused solutions to pressing social problems is too big a lift for nonprofits and the private sector alone. We need more public-sector funding.”

