

Quarterly Issues Programs List

Townsquare Media Faribault-Owatonna

Stations: KRFO-AM, KRFO-FM, and KQCL-FM

January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023

SECTION I. Issues

- A) **Mental Health:** Even prior to the pandemic mental health issues, and specifically suicide, were increasingly in the spotlight and causing concern in Minnesota. Now we are seeing the stresses of the pandemic causing an elevated rate of mental health issues and suicide across the state.
- B) **Agriculture:** As the spring planting season approaches, an increased focus is put on farm and agricultural safety. A farmer is 800 percent more likely to die while working than people in other jobs, and agriculture plays an enormous role across southern Minnesota.
- C) **Education:** As children across southern Minnesota are back in the classroom following the holidays, many Minnesota families are concerned how Minnesota school districts are handling influenza, COVID-19, teacher & bus driver shortages, and school safety.
- D) **Safety:** Many Minnesotans view the state as being less safe that it was just a few years ago. Behavior changes that occurred during the pandemic may be to blame. Keeping themselves, their children, and families safe is always on the mind of Minnesotans
- E) **Healthcare:** Keeping their families healthy is likely the top priority of southern Minnesota parents and families. From flu shots to COVID boosters, and the best strategies for keeping kids safe & healthy – are all on the minds of Minnesotans searching for more information.

SECTION II – Responsive Programs

MINNESOTA MATTERS is a weekly locally produced public affairs program that discusses matters of importance to Minnesotans. Minnesota Matters runs every Sunday morning on **KRFO-AM**, **KRFO-FM** and **KQCL-FM** for 30 minutes from 6:00 am to 6:30 am.

1/7/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Healthcare, safety

Program Description: Discussed during the program an update on COVID-19 in Minnesota, TV & movie productions in the state, and a safety reminder from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on ice conditions.

1/14/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Healthcare, safety, abortion

Program Description: During the program there was discussion of new evaluations on the best ways to treat diabetes in children, an update on the state-wide holiday DWI campaign from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, and news from the Minnesota legislature as lawmakers pushed to include abortion rights into Minnesota law.

1/21/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Healthcare, education, personal finances, economy

Program Description: During the program the hosts discussed the difficulty Minnesota hospitals are having trouble discharging patients into continuing care, managing holiday debt, and the recent single largest donation ever made to any Minnesota college or university.

1/28/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Minnesota politics, education

Program Description: During the program the hosts discuss the large economic impact the Minnesota State University has on the state, the deepening of Minnesota's teacher shortage, and the newly released state budget and infrastructure program.

2/4/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Economy, health, abortion, Minnesota politics, employment

Program Description: This week's program included discussions on legislation focused on rural broadband and agricultural development, a federal push for expanded paid family leave, and the signing into Minnesota law the fundamental right to abortion.

2/11/23

Issue(s) Discussed: Safety, healthcare, Minnesota politics

Program Description: The program discussed the latest on new grants to help school districts install stop-arm camera systems on school busses, a large majority of Minnesota hospitals are continuing to hide the cost of care from consumers, and a recap of a busy week in Minnesota politics.

2/18/23

Issue(s) Discussed: Mental health, safety, personal finance, environment

Program Description: This week's program included a discussion on how the recent mass shooting at Michigan State University is close to home for many Minnesotans, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' eagle program is celebrating ten years, and the tax season is in full swing.

2/25/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Agriculture, healthcare, addiction, economy, education

Program Description: This week on the program discussions included the University of Minnesota moving ahead with a state-of-the-art agriculture teaching and research hub, the FDA's expected approval of over-the-counter Naloxone, and workforce shortage that continue to affect nursing homes and assisted living centers across the state.

3/4/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: healthcare, senior care, agriculture, community events

Program Description: This week on the program there were discussions about senior caregiving in Minnesota, the Minnesota State Fair has named a new CEO, and part-two of a conversation of the U of M's advanced agriculture teaching and research hub.

3/11/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Healthcare, mental health, economy

Program Description: During the program the hosts discussed the number of family caregivers in Minnesota continues to rise, March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness month, Minnesota exports reached a record high in 2022, and caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease.

3/18/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Gambling addiction, mental health, suicide, economy

Program Description: During the program the hosts covered Gambling Awareness Month, the continuing workforce shortage in long-term healthcare centers, and more Minnesotans are utilizing the 988 suicide and crisis lifeline.

3/25/2023

Issue(s) Discussed: Agriculture, healthcare, economy, families

Program Description: This week's program focuses on avian influenza in Minnesota, the continued series on workforce shortage in Minnesota's long-term healthcare centers, and family fun with the Mississippi Park Connection.