



SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE  
FOUNDATION

## MISSION STATEMENT

To be a catalyst, facilitating opportunities for economic and social growth by developing and challenging leaders to build on the region's assets.

## FY08 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Received the bronze 2008 Wilmer Shields Rich Award for Excellence in Communications from the national Council on Foundations for the redesigned Web site.
- Received the Economic Development Assn. of Minnesota's (EDAM) Marketing Award for the "Just Imagine" mini-documentary.
- Achieved compliance from the Council on Foundation's National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations that provides assurance that SWIF operates to the highest standards of accountability.
- Distributed 181 gallons of paint to six beautification projects through Valspar's Minnesota Beautiful Program.
- Created a first-ever regional network and online forum for all Early Childhood Initiative coordinators.
- Launched SWIF's pilot community and leadership development program in Montevideo and New London.
- Expanded Diverse Business Assistance with the addition of a full-time staff member.



NATIONAL  
STANDARDS<sup>SM</sup>