

Southwest Initiative Foundation Impact



SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE
FOUNDATION

15 3rd Avenue NW
Hutchinson, MN 55350
1-800-594-9480 or
320-587-4848
www.swifoundation.org

Current focus areas include:

Economic advancement
Leadership and community development
Building regional capacity
Philanthropy

To date, SWIF has:

- Contributed more than \$48 million through its grant and loan programs
- Helped more than 460 businesses start or expand
- Created or retained more than 7,500 jobs
- Established 14 Early Childhood Initiative Coalitions
- Established 14 Youth Energy Summit (YES!) teams
- Established 21 community foundations and more than 65 designated funds
- Yielded a 330 percent real-money return on every dollar invested to southwest Minnesota communities



Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards
for U.S. Community Foundations

Lincoln County

Since 1986, the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) has been making a positive impact on each of the 18 counties in southwest Minnesota. Here are some examples of SWIF's recent impact on Lincoln County.

(July 1, 2008 - April 30, 2009, unless otherwise noted)

Initiatives and partnerships

- Community and designated funds
 - Cooper and Jack Schoenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Lake Benton Area Foundation
 - Lake Benton Education Foundation Fund
 - Lake Benton Lake Association Fund
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund
 - Tyler Area Community Foundation

Loans

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 22 loans totaling \$979,550 to businesses in Lincoln County. Recent examples:

- Tyler Regional Economic Development, Tyler
- Kids' Campus Daycare Center, Inc., Lake Benton

Grants

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 29 grants totaling \$151,962 to benefit Lincoln County. Recent example:

- With assets from the Lake Benton Area Foundation, grant awarded to Lake Benton Police Dept. to upgrade and reprogram defibrillator (June 2008)

Connections

- Stained glass artist Joan Hohenstein of Lake Benton featured in 2009 banquet talent showcase
- Joyce Dass of Lake Benton serves on SWIF Board of Directors
- Vince Robinson of Ivanhoe serves on SWIF Board of Directors

Regional projects and events

- "Getting School Ready" guides provided at no charge to all school districts upon request
- "Family Survival Webinar" series offered at no charge for parents and caregivers covering Financial Survival During Today's Economy; Healthy Meal Planning and Shopping for Families on a Budget; and Parenting Tools for Tough Times
- "Leading By Example" leadership conference attended by more than 250 regional business, community and organizational leaders
- "What Matters Most" celebrated by more than 250 southwest Minnesotans at the 2009 banquet, which featured regional entrepreneurs, musicians, artists and keynote speaker V.J. Smith