

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

Murray 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 Murray County.

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

Initiatives and partnerships

- Murray County Early Childhood Initiative
- Community and designated funds
 - Cooper and Jack Schoenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund
 - Murray County Central Rebel Foundation Fund – New fund in FY09
- Murray County Early Childhood Fund

Loans

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 8 loans totaling \$393,850 to businesses in Murray County. Recent examples include:

- Monogram Meat Snacks, Chandler (2007)
- TB Happier Now Child Care, Slayton (2008)

Grants

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 36 grants totaling \$183,906 to benefit Murray County. Recent example:

- Murray County Early Childhood Initiative to support visioning, coordinating and programming

Connections

- SWIF fund partner session in Slayton attended by 26 community foundation and designated fund partners
- Valspar's Minnesota Beautiful "Picture It Painted" project - Dinehart Holt House Painting Project, Slayton
- Jim Keul of Slayton 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