

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

Yellow Medicine 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 Yellow Medicine County.
(July 1, 2008 - April 30, 2009, unless otherwise noted)

Initiatives and partnerships

- Canby Youth Energy Summit (YES!) team
- Community and designated funds
 - Blue and Gold Foundation Fund
 - Canby Community Scholarship Endowment Fund
 - Clarkfield Area Charter School Fund
 - Clarkfield Area Community Foundation
 - Granite Falls Area Community Foundation – New fund in FY09
 - Green Corridor Fund – New Fund in FY09
 - Laura Miller Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund
 - Minnesota West Community & Technical College Small Business Management Fund

Loans

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 33 loans totaling \$1,612,200 to businesses in Yellow Medicine County. Recent examples:

- Riverdale Environmental Services, Inc., Granite Falls
- Inspirational Designs Custom Banners, Wood Lake (2003)

Grants

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 71 grants totaling \$729,522 to benefit Yellow Medicine County. Recent examples:

- With assets from the Canby Community Scholarship Endowment Fund, grants awarded to fund scholarships for Canby High School graduates attending post-secondary school in 2008-09

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
- Southern Minnesota Regional Competitiveness Project Regional Roundtable in Granite Falls
- “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