

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 \$51 million through its grant and loan programs
- Helped more than 495 businesses start or expand
- Created or retained more than 7,600 jobs
- Established 14 Early Childhood Initiative Coalitions
- Established 29 Youth Energy Summit (YES!) teams
- Established 21 community foundations and more than 70 designated funds
- Yielded a 268 percent real-money return on every dollar invested to southwest Minnesota communities



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

Jackson 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 Jackson County.
(July 1, 2009, - June 30, 2010, unless otherwise noted)

Initiatives and partnerships

- Partnership with Prairie Ecology Bus Center, Lakefield, to deliver Youth Energy Summit (YES!) program
- Community and designated funds
 - Cooper and Jack Schoenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Friends of the Jackson County Library Fund
 - Heron Lake-Okabena Community Foundation, which received a \$1,350 matching challenge grant
 - Jackson Community Foundation, which received a \$1,350 matching challenge grant
 - Jackson County Central Education Foundation Fund
 - Kristi Elaine Teigen Memorial Scholarship Fund - New fund created in FY10
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund
 - Minnesota West Community and Technical College Small Business Management Fund
 - Prairie Ecology Bus Fund
 - Rural Energy Development Initiative (REDI) loan and support provided to wind project near Wilder

Education and assistance

The Nonprofit Leader's Academy was launched to promote building leadership skills from the inside out. Participating organizations include:

- Prairie Ecology Bus Center, Lakefield

Loans

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 23 loans totaling \$1,441,500 to businesses in Jackson County. Recent examples:

- Last-Deck, Inc., Jackson (2004)
- Flower Market of Jackson, Jackson (April 2009)

Grants

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 215 grants totaling \$1,504,088 to benefit Jackson County. Recent examples:

- Matching challenge grants awarded to Heron Lake-Okabena and Jackson Community Foundations to fulfill immediate grantmaking needs
- With assets from Jackson Community Foundation, grant awarded to Jackson County Public Library for library operations

Connections

- Marcy Costello of Lakefield serves on SWIF Board of Directors
- Valspar's Minnesota Beautiful "Picture it Painted" projects
 - Jackson County Fair Association
 - Heron Lake Senior Citizens

Continued on reverse.



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Jackson Community Foundation awarded a grant to Jackson County Public Library in May of 2010.



SWIF provides opportunities to equip all southwest Minnesota adults with knowledge and tools to help our youngest citizens learn, love and thrive.



SWIF educates southwest Minnesota on opportunities the renewable energy industry presents to retain local wealth.

Jackson County

Continued from reverse.

Regional projects and events

- “Leading By Example II: Boomers to Rockstars” leadership conference attended by more than 220 regional business, community and organizational leaders
- Southern Minnesota Regional Competitiveness Project - Partnered with several regional entities across southern Minnesota to build a strategic economic development plan focused on key assets
- Bio-Ag Business Leader Forums - Convened a small group of key business leaders around the potential economic opportunities related to the convergence of biology and agriculture
- YES! kick-off event and career fair hosted at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall