

Southwest Initiative Foundation Impact



SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE
FOUNDATION

15 3rd Avenue NW
Hutchinson, MN 55350
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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

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, 2009, - June 30, 2010, unless otherwise noted)

Initiatives and partnerships

- Community and designated funds
 - Cooper and Jack Schoenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Lake Benton Area Foundation, which received a \$1,350 matching challenge grant
 - Lake Benton Education Foundation Fund
 - Lake Benton Lake Association Fund
 - Lincoln HI High School Foundation Fund - New fund created in FY10
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund
 - Tyler Area Community Foundation

Education and assistance

- Monthly entrepreneur education opportunities offered at no cost to participants in Ivanhoe

Loans

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 24 loans totaling \$1,022,550 to businesses in Lincoln County. Recent examples:

- Main Street Bar & Grill, Hendricks (December 2009)
- Maris Hearing Center, Ivanhoe (March 2009)

Grants

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 157 grants totaling \$1,656,900 to benefit Lincoln County. Recent examples:

- Awarded matching challenge grant to Lake Benton Area Foundation to fulfill immediate grantmaking needs
- With assets from the Lake Benton Area Foundation, grant awarded to Lake Benton Police Dept. to upgrade and reprogram defibrillator (2008)

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