

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

Rock 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 Rock County.

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

Initiatives and partnerships

- Rock County Early Childhood Initiative
- Community and designated funds
 - Cooper and Jack Schoenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Luverne Child Guide Endowment Fund
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund

Education and assistance

- Monthly entrepreneur education opportunities offered at no charge to participants in Luverne
- Social networking workshop for businesses held in Luverne

Loans

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 17 loans totaling \$842,326 to businesses in Rock County. Recent examples:

- Community Wind South, LLC, Luverne (2006)
- The Coffey Haus, Luverne (2005)

Grants

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 141 grants totaling \$1,634,940 to benefit Rock County. Recent example:

- Grant awarded to Rock County Early Childhood Initiative to support year one coordination (Feb. 2009)

Connections

- Valspar's Minnesota Beautiful "Picture It Painted" projects
 - Rock County Council for Arts & Humanities
 - Rock County Opportunities

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