

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

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

Initiatives and partnerships

- Community and designated funds
 - Blue and Gold Foundation Fund
 - Canby Community Scholarship Endowment Fund
 - Clarkfield Area Community Foundation, which received a \$1,350 matching challenge grant
 - Granite Falls Area Community Foundation
 - Laura Miller Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
 - Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Fund
 - Minnesota West Community & Technical College Small Business Management Fund
- REDI loan and support provided to wind project near Porter

Grants

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 254 grants totaling \$3,015,892 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
- Awarded matching challenge grant to Clarkfield Area Community Foundation to fulfill immediate grantmaking needs

Loans

(as of April 30, 2010)

Since inception, SWIF has awarded 36 loans totaling \$1,704,200 to businesses in Yellow Medicine County. Recent examples:

- JC & Sons Hardware, Granite Falls
- Friendship Cafe, LTD, Clarkfield

Connections

- Valspar's Minnesota Beautiful "Picture It Painted" project - Minnesota's Machinery Museum

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