



TO: Faribault EDA
FROM: Deanna Kuennen, Director
MEETING DATE: September 20, 2018
SUBJECT: Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation – Annual Update
Jennifer Nelson, Vice President of Development

Background

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is an important economic development partner. For more than 30 years, SMIF has invested in early childhood and economic development projects and initiatives throughout a 20-county region – to ensure prosperous and vibrant communities. To support SMIF’s work, the City of Faribault and the Faribault EDA have provided financial contributions to SMIF, most recently in the amount of \$6,000 in 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Jennifer Nelson, SMIF Vice President of Development will be attending the EDA meeting to provide an update on the Foundation’s work, present the SMIF annual report, and seek continued financial support.

Requested Action

No action is required at this time.

Attachments:

SMIF 2019 Funding Request Letter
SMIF Annual Report for Rice County



SOUTHERN MINNESOTA
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

525 Florence Avenue • PO Box 695 • Owatonna, MN 55060-0695
PH 507.455.3215 • FAX 507.455.2098 • smifoundation.org

May 2018

Deanna Kuennen
Faribault Economic Development Authority
208 1st Ave NW
Faribault, MN 55021-5105

Ms. Kuennen and EDA Members,

Thank you for your generous support in 2018. Because of you, SMIF is able to change lives in southern Minnesota but we still need your help to move the needle on progress.

Did you know:

- **There is a 28% shortage of spaces available for child care in southern Minnesota.** This impacts not only families and children but also the workforce.
- **99.5% of businesses in Minnesota are considered small businesses.** This segment requires the most support to grow and prosper.
- **An estimated \$7 billion is going to transfer generations in southern Minnesota by 2030.** How is your community planning to capture these dollars?

SMIF is addressing these issues, but we need your continued support to help us assist our youngest residents, aspiring entrepreneurs and local community initiatives. Without you, we would not have been able to accomplish everything listed on the accompanying factsheet. This is only a small portion of what our donors have made possible.

Your support will change lives. **Please consider a contribution in 2019 to keep this essential work in our region moving forward.** And as always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out.

With sincere gratitude,

Tim Penny
SMIF President & CEO

cc: Jennifer Sawyer, Board Member



Your last gift of

\$6,000

allowed SMIF to invest

\$138,000

into your community!

(Rice County ROI: \$1 donated = \$23 invested)



Collaborating for Regional Vitality





SOUTHERN MINNESOTA
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

Collaborating for Regional Vitality

Rice County Investments

We envision southern Minnesota as a prosperous and growing region with vibrant communities, innovative and successful economies, and engaged and valued citizens. To achieve this vision, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, a regional development and philanthropic organization, fosters economic and community vitality in 20 counties of southern Minnesota through a culture of collaboration and partnership.

For every donation of
from Rice County

\$1

=

\$23

is invested back
into Rice County
communities.*

*Includes grants, loans & programming

43 LOANS

\$3 million to Rice County entrepreneurs

177 GRANTS

\$1.4 million to support community initiatives

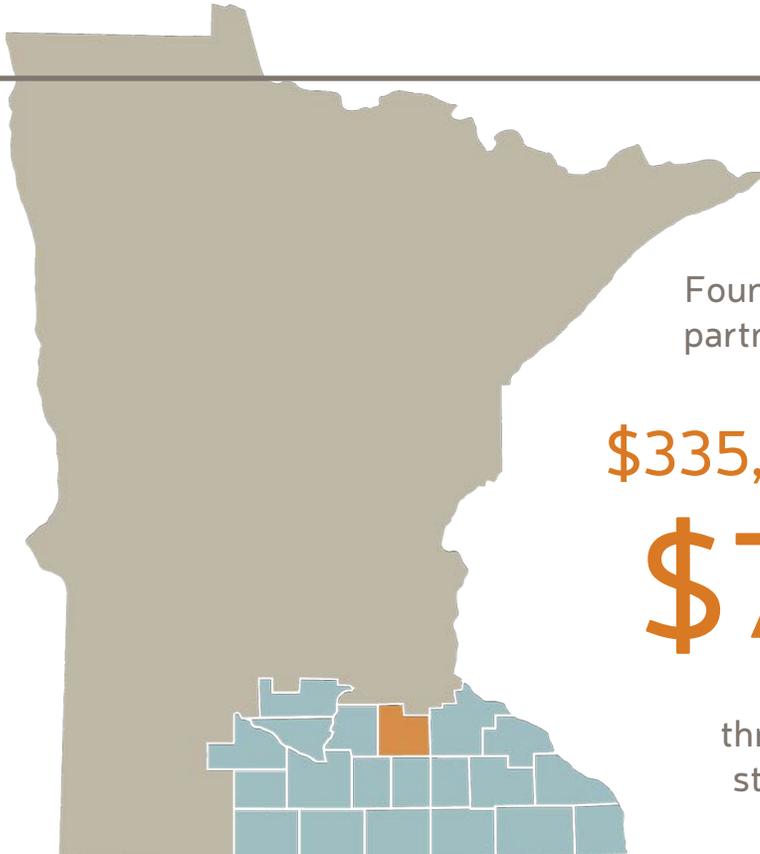
***\$5 million invested annually to the 20 counties of
south central and southeastern Minnesota***

Since 1986, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation has leveraged local investments & partnerships to create a stronger **Rice County**:

\$335,000 in local donations to SMIF

\$7.6 million

invested by SMIF in Rice County through grants, loans, and programming for stronger kids, businesses and communities



Loans & Equity Investments* Supporting local entrepreneurs & creating jobs

Brand Yourself LLC, Northfield	Full service marketing firm
F-Town Brewing Company LLC, Faribault	Craft beer brewery and tap room
AUM Cardiovascular Inc, Northfield	Hand-held device for assessment of coronary artery disease
SAGE Electrochromics Incorporated, Faribault	Designer & manufacturer of “switchable” tint glass
Hermann Law Office	General practice law firm
Bella Vita Salon LLC, Faribault	Hair salon
Imminent Brewing, Northfield	Craft beer brewery and tap room
Living Greens Farms, Faribault	Aeroponic Farming

*SCORE Chapter; Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation in partnership with CEDA and DEED hold the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Region 10, allowing these counties to apply for Economic Development Administration funding at the Federal level.

Grants Investments in economic development, early childhood and community vitality

AmeriCorps LEAP Initiative, Northfield	Members helping with social emotional skill development
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Public Schools	Home visiting grants focused on early intervention
Agripreneur Program	Grant for agripreneur incubator to train aspiring farmers
Tri-City United Schools	Feasibility study for trail project
Northfield Healthy Community Initiative	Art-based literacy sessions for childcare providers
Rice County Early Childhood Dental Network	Network of early childhood & dental providers addressing issues
Three Rivers Community Action Incorporated, Northfield	Hundreds of books awarded through multiple literacy grants
Faribault Public Schools	Community Learning provides school readiness for children
Quality Child Care Program, Faribault, Northfield, Dundas	Increasing quality childcare through provider training

Affiliate Funds Increasing rural philanthropy

Monaghan Family Fund	Montgomery Community Foundation
----------------------	---------------------------------

Community Collaborations Bringing communities together for change

Northfield Community Growth Initiative
Faribault BioBusiness Community Growth Initiative
United For Kids Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2009)
Tri-City United Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2009)
Waterville Elysian Morristown Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2005)
Northfield Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2004)

Making a Difference

Building social-emotional skills through arts and literacy



Northfield Healthy Community Initiative received an incentive grant from SMIF to provide an arts-based literacy program to in-home childcare providers in Northfield. This partnership between the Northfield Early Childhood Initiative Coalition, Northfield Arts Guild, and Northfield Public Library gave literacy support to children, providers, and parents. The literacy program helps strengthen children’s social and emotional health and school readiness.

Megan, one of the art teachers involved in the project, says, “I can’t capture in words how heart-warming this program is. The kids are SO excited every time we visit and there are a lot of hugs when you come and go. And, the best part is that they are having fun while learning so many literacy and arts skills.”