



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

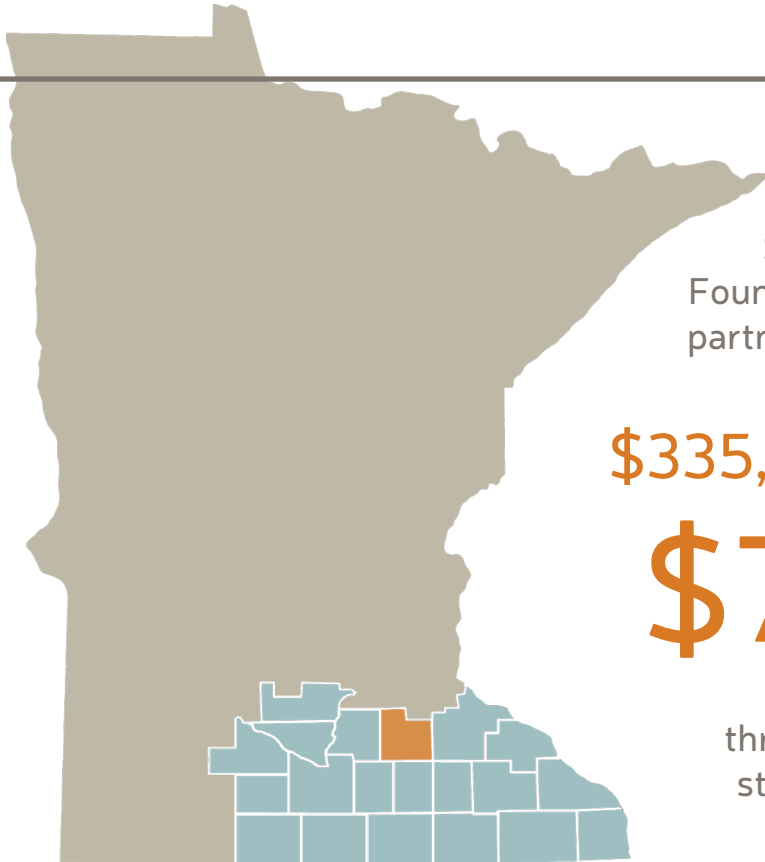
43 LOANS

\$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
Greenway Home Improvement, Faribault	Remodeling, building and handyman services
AUM Cardiovascular Inc, Northfield	Hand-held device for assessment of coronary artery disease
SAGE Electrochromics Incorporated, Faribault	Designer & manufacturer of “switchable” tint glass
Living Greens Farms, Faribault	Aeroponic Farming
Bella Vita Salon LLC, Faribault	Hair salon
Imminent Brewing, Northfield	Craft beer brewery and tap room

*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
Sustainable Farming Association of MN, Faribault	Promote and strengthen concept of Cannon Valley Grown
Faribault Diversity Coalition	Provide co-working space for entrepreneurs and small businesses
Cannonbelles, Northfield	FEAST! Smart Start client
Northfield Healthy Community Initiative	Support Latino Friend-Family-Neighbor providers through training
Singing Hills Dairy, Nerstrand	FEAST! Smart Start client
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 child care through provider training
Northfield Public Schools	Improving school readiness of children most in need
Faribault Public Schools	Create Early Learning Centers where PreK programming is offered

Affiliate Funds Increasing rural philanthropy

Monaghan Family Fund

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), Faribault
Tri-City United Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2009), Le Center, Lonsdale, Montgomery
Waterville Elysian Morristown Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2005)
Northfield Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2004)

Making a Difference Strengthening the local foods system



The Cannon River Chapter of the Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota launched the regional brand “Cannon Valley Grown” with the support of SMIF’s FEAST! Smart Start Grant. Cannon Valley Grown is working to promote and strengthen the local foods system in its area. This project will build a committed group of producers, food entrepreneurs, and allied businesses well-equipped to partner in a vibrant local food economy in the Cannon River region. Cannon Valley Grown states on their website, “We want to transform the way we connect the next generation of local sustainable farmers and producers to consumers, all while supporting a healthier ecosystem.”