



SOUTHERN MINNESOTA  
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

Collaborating for Regional Vitality

# Martin 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 Martin County

\$1

=

\$7

is invested back  
into Martin County  
communities.\*

\*Includes grants, loans & programming

23 LOANS

\$1.1 million to Martin County entrepreneurs

124 GRANTS

\$716,000 to support community initiatives

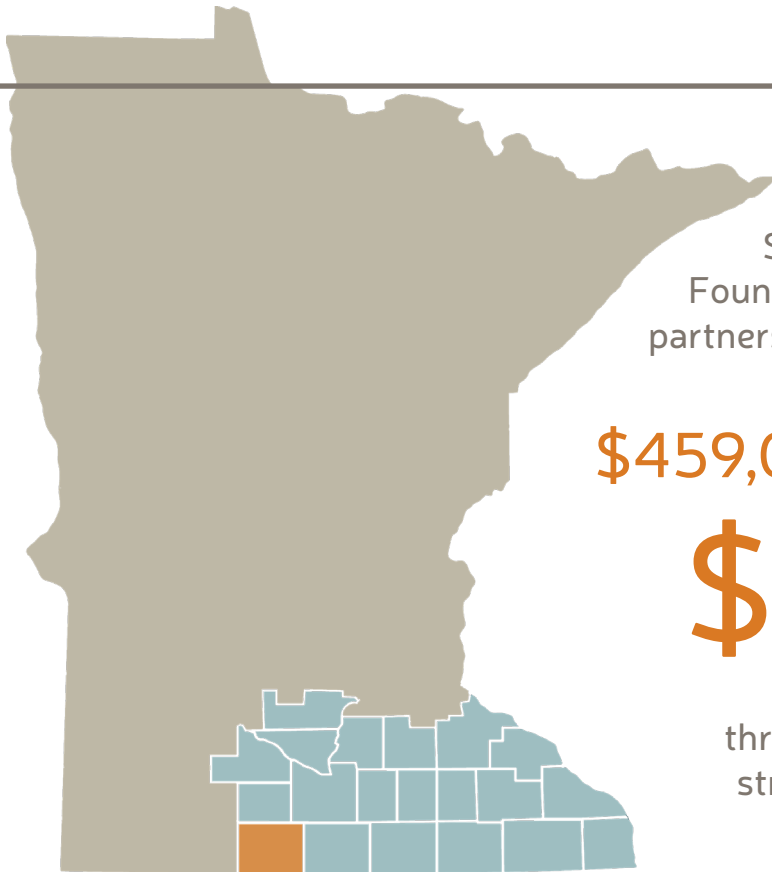
***\$5 million invested annually to the 20 counties of  
south central and southeastern Minnesota***

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

**\$459,000** in local donations to SMIF

**\$3.1 million**

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



## Loans & Equity Investments Supporting local entrepreneurs & creating jobs

Five Lakes Dental Studio, Fairmont	Dental products manufacturer
VFC Incorporated, Truman	Diesel particle filter cleaning service
Blue Box Bridal LLC, Fairmont	Full service bridal store
Easy Energy Systems Incorporated, Welcome	Modular ethanol production system
Fairmont Butcher Block	Butcher shop
Watson's Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning Incorporated, Ormsby	Heating and air conditioning service
Timberlake Orchard, Fairmont	Apple orchard
Trimont Greenhouse & Floral	Greenhouse and garden products
China House Cafe LLC, Truman	Chinese and American Restaurant

## Grants Investments in economic development, early childhood and community vitality

AmeriCorps LEAP Initiative, MCW Sherburn	Members helping with social emotional skill development
Rural Brain Gain Project	Grant to attract workforce and young families
Fairmont Area Schools	Hundreds of books awarded through multiple literacy grants
Town Center Incorporated, Trimont	Town Center Project: grocery, hardware, & liquor stores and fuel site
Youth First, Fairmont	Home visiting services grant to support at risk youth
Fairmont Area Schools	Pre-K to Grade 3 Alignment grant
Fairmont Early Childhood Initiative	"ECI on the Go" outreach program
ECDN (Early Childhood Dental Network), Martin County	Increase awareness of the importance of dental health in children
Parenting Matters, Profinium Financial	Provide parenting education classes in the workplace
Quality Child Care Program, Fairmont	Increasing quality childcare through provider training

## Affiliate Funds Increasing rural philanthropy

Kiwanis Club of Fairmont Early Risers Inc. Foundation	Fairmont Adventure Playground
Fairmont Community Center	

## Community Collaborations Bringing communities together for change

Fairmont Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2003)
Martin County West Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2010)

### Making a Difference

Addressing issues of education and access to dental care for children



SMIF has worked to address the issues on awareness and access to dental care by creating the Early Childhood Dental Network (ECDN). In five of SMIF's 20 counties (Blue Earth, Brown, Martin, Nicollet and Rice), existing Early Childhood Initiative communities have also become part of the ECDN. The Network recently launched an awareness campaign about the dangers of giving sugary drinks and snacks to children. Martin County has also worked with Holly Jorgensen of Let's Smile on various projects surrounding dental care.