



SOUTHERN MINNESOTA
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

Collaborating for Regional Vitality

Nicollet 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 Nicollet County

\$1

=

\$14

is invested back
into Nicollet County
communities.*

*Includes grants, loans & programming

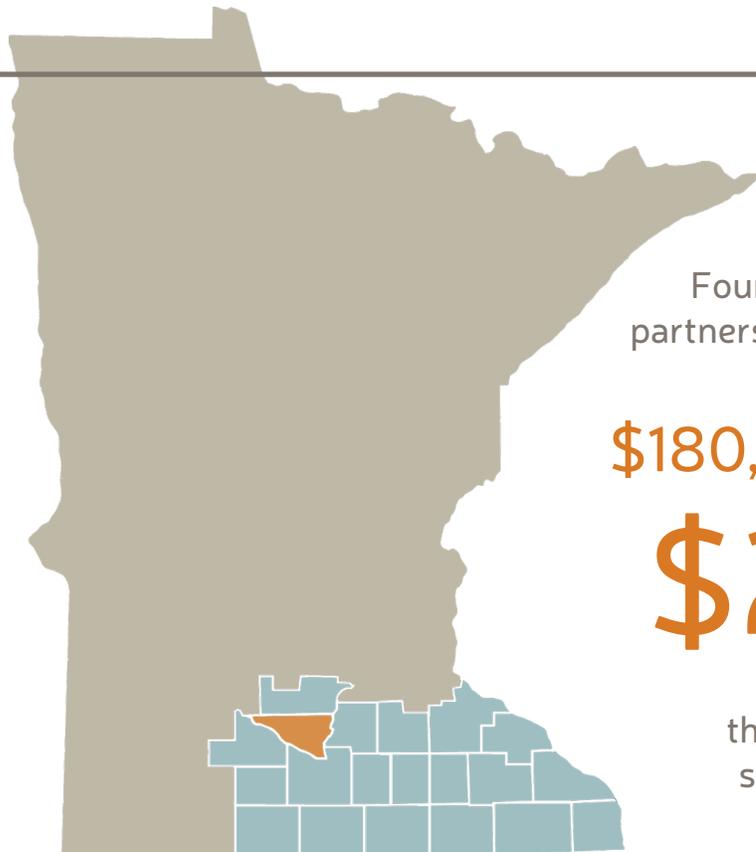
18 LOANS

\$979,000 to Nicollet County entrepreneurs

72 GRANTS

\$497,000 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 **Nicollet County**:

\$180,000 in local donations to SMIF

\$2.5 million

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

Loans & Equity Investments* Supporting local entrepreneurs & creating jobs

Angie's Artisan Treats LLC, North Mankato	Snack food manufacturer
River Rock Coffee LLC, Saint Peter	Café specializing in fresh homemade foods and speciality drinks
Exceed Packaging Inc, Saint Peter	Contract packaging (non-food) & assembly
Lucky's Popcorn Dressing LLC, North Mankato	Manufactures, bottles & distributes gourmet sauces
CAB Construction Company, North Mankato	Manufacturing, metal fabrication, and construction enterprise

*SCORE Chapter

Grants Investments in economic development, early childhood and community vitality

AmeriCorps LEAP (Learning Early Achieves Potential)	Members helping with social emotional skill development
Saint Peter Community Childcare Center Incorporated	Hundreds of books awarded through multiple literacy grants
Saint Peter Public Schools	Linking to learning - program supporting parents of at-risk students
Region Nine Centers of Excellence, Mankato	Trainings on the social emotional development of children birth to 5
ECDN (Early Childhood Dental Network), Blue Earth & Nicollet County	Increase awareness of the importance of dental health in children
Region Nine	MedTech Connect will provide technical assistance for MMMP
MNVAC	Implement Growing Great Kids curriculum
Quality Child Care Program, Saint Peter	Increasing quality childcare through provider training
Nicollet Public Schools	Awarded 75 books for bookmobile program

Making a Difference

Making the businesses of Southern MN stronger



SCORE District 508 Director Rick Barkley presented the South Central Minnesota SCORE Chapter 710 the District Chapter of the Year Award. SCORE is a nonprofit association supported by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) with the goal of providing no cost, confidential mentoring by experienced volunteers to aspiring new business owners and to existing businesses. SCORE Chapter 710 has 30 active members who meet with 10 businesses on a monthly basis. "Chapter 710 is proud to accept this award," said Chapter Board Chair Diane Wilson. "As volunteers, we are passionate about the business climate of the 7 county area in which we work."