SOUTHERN MINNESOTA
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

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

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
The Great Southern Minnesota Trivia Night Grant
Guidelines and Procedures

Effective December 2021

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) works collaboratively to help create vibrant communities, innovative and successful economies and engaged and valued citizens. A key component to creating a vibrant region is to ensure all of its communities are strong and successful.

The grant is available to the community in SMIF's 20-county region chosen by the winning team of The Great Southern Minnesota Trivia Night held on January 27, 2022. **SMIF is offering one grant of up to $5,000 for this opportunity.** We will entertain requests that focus on bringing the community together to address current opportunities or needs.

Consider the Following in Your Application

- **Asset-based approaches**—projects that maximize the strengths, talents, and resources of the local community
- **Collaboration/partnership**—projects that bring the community together and address issues that help many community members
- **Effectiveness**—projects that aim to effectively address an identified need and/or opportunity
- **Measurable results**—projects that will demonstrate impact within your community as defined by the community

Application Requirements

- Completed application and budget including narrative of how this project will be transformative for your community
- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter (if nonprofit organization)
- Audited financials or filed tax forms if unaudited
- Letter(s) of support from partner organization(s) other than the applicant organization and fiscal agent
- If the application is from a County or entity that serves multiple communities, the applicant must demonstrate which communities are impacted
- SMIF requires all grantees to submit final grant reports

Exclusions

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- Individuals, businesses, or other for-profit organizations cannot apply directly. A non-profit or government agency can apply to support this group directly for COVID hardships.
- General operating expenses and expenses not directly related to the project/program
- Existing deficits
- Programs or services mandated by law
- Routine city, county, or township planning or zoning
- Routine maintenance
- Routine capital projects that cannot demonstrate an impact within the community
- Comprehensive plans or feasibility studies that will not have tangible results within a 12-month timeframe

Application, Grant Review and Award Process

Eligible applications that demonstrate a transformative and collaborative impact within their community will receive a full review by SMIF staff members.

The internal grant review committee will work with the community to ensure approval of a final grant award.

Grant award payment will be made once all grant contract requirements are completed. SMIF requires all grantees to submit grant reports as outlined in the grant contract. Failure to submit a report, incomplete reports, and/or late reports may jeopardize future grant funding from SMIF. SMIF will provide a public announcement highlighting the project on behalf of the grant recipient.

Application Deadline

Deadline for application is 4:00 pm on June 15, 2022. Awards will be made June 30, 2022.

Submit application and attachments via mail, fax or email to:
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
Attn: Alissa Oeltjenbruns
PO Box 695
Owatonna, MN 55060
Fax: 507-455-2098
alissao@smifoundation.org

All applicants will be contacted via email or telephone to confirm receipt of their application.

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Contact Us

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