

May 2018

Ron Johnson
City of Cannon Falls
918 River Rd
Cannon Falls, MN 55009-1447

Mr. Johnson and City Council,

SMIF changes lives in southern Minnesota because of local support. However, 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 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 gift of \$500 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: John Peterson, Board Member



Your gift of

\$500

will allow SMIF to invest

\$8,500

into your community!

*(Goodhue County ROI: \$1 donated =
\$17 invested)*





SOUTHERN MINNESOTA
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

Collaborating for Regional Vitality

Goodhue 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 Goodhue County

\$1

=

\$16

is invested back into
Goodhue County
communities.*

*Includes grants, loans & programming

38 LOANS

\$2.2 million to Goodhue County entrepreneurs

155 GRANTS

\$922,000 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 **Goodhue County**:

\$369,000 in local donations to SMIF

\$6 million

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

Loans & Equity Investments* Supporting local entrepreneurs & creating jobs

River Bluff Technologies Incorporated, Red Wing	Cloud-based insurance company customer management technology
Total Farming Technologies, Pine Island	Agriculture and construction equipment business
Custom Iron, Zumbrota	Manufactures custom architectural metals - stairs, trim and more
Under the Rainbow Childcare Center Incorporated, Red Wing	Child care center
The Bleu Dog Café, Welch	Small restaurant and catering
Red Wing Cabinetry, LLC, Red Wing	Custom cabinet manufacturer

**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

Quality Child Care Program, Red Wing	Increasing quality childcare through provider training
Zumbrota-Mazeppa National Honor Society	20 gallons of paint awarded for murals and school halls
Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools	Hundreds of books awarded through multiple literacy grants
Red Wing Innovation Incubator	Project to provide development tools for the professional artists
Every Hand Joined, Red Wing	Provide strategies for early child care providers and families
Pine Island Public Schools	School-wide recycling program
Community Collaboration Grant, Wanamingo Community Foundation	Ball field improvements

Affiliate Funds Increasing rural philanthropy

Goodhue Community Foundation	Wanamingo Community Foundation
Wings—Donor Advised Fund (Red Wing Area)	

Community Collaborations Bringing communities together for change

City of Zumbrota, Regional Community Growth Initiative
Pine Island EDA, Regional Community Growth Initiative
Red Wing, Entrepreneur Community Growth Initiative
Pine Island, Biobusiness Community Growth Initiative
Red Wing Early Childhood Initiative—Every Hand Joined (started in 2009)
Kenyon-Wanamingo Early Childhood Initiative (started in 2017)
Rural Entrepreneurial Venture (REV) Community, Lake City

Making a Difference

Encouraging the growth of the local foods market



What's one of the most common questions a turkey farmer gets? According to John Peterson of Ferndale Market in Cannon Falls, people want to know if he still eats turkey. "I eat A TON of turkey," said Peterson, who is one of SMIF's Board of Trustees.

Ferndale Market is a frequent exhibitor at the FEAST! Local Foods Marketplace festival in Rochester. "In the first couple years, we came because we knew it was going to be a local food show featuring farmers and makers from our region, so we felt that we needed to be there," said Peterson. "Along the way, FEAST! has become the premier local food show in the region."