

# LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

a campaign for southern Minnesota

January 24, 2020

David Maroney  
City of Cannon Falls  
918 River Rd  
Cannon Falls, MN 55009-1447



Dear Mr. Maroney and City Council;

THANK YOU! Your contribution of \$500 to Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is changing the lives of residents right here in our communities. Below are just a few examples of what your support allows us to accomplish!



Through SMIF's Communities Addressing the Child Care Shortage program, five communities throughout the region are receiving one-on-one technical assistance to think creatively about how to add quality slots. The City of Wells has created two initiatives through this program: a forgivable loan program and a space that family child care providers can rent to run their child care business.



Many business owners in small communities are beginning to think about retirement, and in order to keep those businesses strong and growing, they need to have a succession plan. With the support of a \$20,000 Economic Development Grant from SMIF, BizLink North created an online website where entrepreneurs looking to move on from business ownership are connected to potential buyers.



SMIF can't be everywhere, so we are determined to empower our communities by acting as the fiscal host to 30 community foundations. These foundations annually grant out over \$600,000 to local projects. For example, the St. Charles Area Community Foundation has helped transform a vacant lot into a functional community gathering space.

Thank you for giving to SMIF and supporting the growth of our region for years to come. Because you chose to give to our endowment fund, the principle will never be spent, allowing the dollars to continue to give year after year through our investment strategy. Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim".

Tim Penny  
President & CEO

cc: John Peterson, Board Member

*Thank you! Your support makes the work we do with entrepreneurs, children and communities possible!*

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation is a 501(c) (3) organization; your gift is tax deductible. No goods or services were provided to the donor.