

**Goodhue County**  
**Outside Agency Funding Request Form**

<b>Budget</b>		<b>Estimated 2027</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
	Fees:	\$ 66,950
	Grants:	\$ 872,268
	State/Federal Funding:	\$ 901,804
	Other Revenue:	\$ 5,759,288
<b>Total Revenues:</b>		<b>\$ 7,600,310</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
	Salaries:	\$ 1,610,905
	Benefits:	\$ 402,726
	Professional Services:	\$ 283,250
	Services & Charges:	\$ 19,055
	Supplies & Materials:	\$ 190,121
	Other Expenses:	\$ 5,094,253
	Capital:	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>		<b>\$ 7,600,310</b>
<b>Requested Funding From County:</b>		
<b>Number of Staff</b>		<b>21</b>

**May 2026**

Scott Arneson  
Goodhue County Economic Development Authority  
509 5th St W  
Red Wing, MN 55066-0408

Dear Mr. Arneson,

As Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) marks 40 years of service to southern Minnesota, we reflect on a legacy rooted in economic resilience and regional growth. Since our founding in 1986 in response to the farm crisis, SMIF has reinvested more than \$178 million to strengthen the region's economic vitality.

Economic development is central to SMIF's mission. Strong local economies depend on thriving small businesses, an adaptable workforce, and communities equipped to support both. From main streets in towns like Truman to close-knit communities like Harmony, local leadership and strategic investment are essential to sustaining long-term resilience.

SMIF partners with communities to drive this work. Through lending and technical assistance, we support entrepreneurs and small business owners as they start, expand, and adapt. Our long-term impact is sustained through endowed funds that provide a stable foundation for continued investment. Our General Endowment and Entrepreneur Fund offer stability and fuel business growth by offering flexible financing and support to help enterprises remain rooted in the region.

Partnership with city and county governments is essential. Your leadership helps create the conditions where businesses succeed, talent grows, and communities remain vibrant places to live and work. See the enclosed fact sheet for recent SMIF activity in your county.

Thank you for your continued partnership. We respectfully request **\$3,150 in support for the 2027 budget year**, consistent with prior funding, to sustain SMIF's work in Goodhue County. With your support, SMIF is able to leverage additional investment into the region to strengthen economic vitality.

We are honored to work alongside you and look forward to building on this momentum in the years ahead.

With deep appreciation,

Benya Kraus  
President & CEO



Southern  
Minnesota  
Initiative  
Foundation

SMIF's investments and partnerships in

# Goodhue County since 1986

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is a regional development and philanthropic organization that fosters economic and community vitality in southern Minnesota through a culture of collaboration and partnership. Serving 20 counties which includes 175 communities and one Native nation.

For every donation  
from Goodhue  
County of

**\$1**



**\$21**

is invested back into  
Goodhue County  
communities.\*

*\*Includes grants, loans & programming*



**54 Loans**

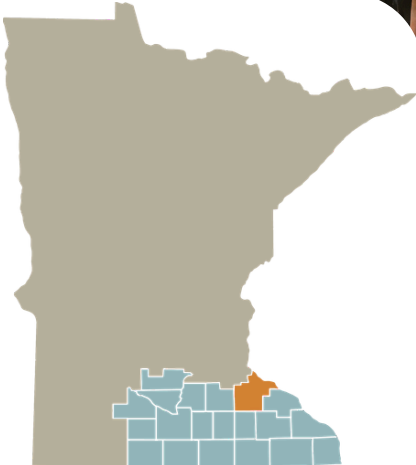
to support entrepreneurs

**355 Grants**

to support community projects

**\$10.4 Million**

invested by SMIF in Goodhue County  
through grants, loans and programming



## Questions?

**Alissa Oeltjenbruns**  
Vice President of Philanthropy &  
Community Vitality  
507-475-3056  
alisso@smifoundation.org



**Check out SMIF's recent activity in your county**



# SMIF's Recent Activity in Goodhue County

## Early Childhood Spotlight



Goodhue Public Schools received 450 books for a summer story time program

*"Through interactive read-alouds, goal-based reading challenges and incentive-based prizes, we aim to foster a love for reading, strengthen early literacy skills and build a stronger connection between families and our school community."*

-Courtney Bonnin, Goodhue Public Schools Instructional Coach

### Other recent activity:

- \$20,000 Taylor Rural Child Care Grant to Three Rivers Community Action in Zumbrota
- Pine Island Public Schools received a \$15,600 Early Care and Education Grant

## Entrepreneurship Spotlight



River Bluff Technologies Inc in Red Wing receives 5<sup>th</sup> loan from SMIF

*Smart Agent, by River Bluff Technologies, offers a reliable, backed-up and secure platform for insurance companies and their agents to manage and utilize critical data about their customers and their policies to retain and increase policy sales. The most recent loan from SMIF supported working capital.*

### Other recent activity:

- Local Food Peer Network member: CannonBelles Cheese
- Technical assistance for prospective and current loan clients
- Red Wing Ignite awarded \$10,000 Inclusive and Equitable Entrepreneurship Grant

## Community Vitality Spotlight



Kenyon Area Foundation awarded Good Neighbor Grant

*Kenyon Area Foundation was awarded a McKnight Foundation Good Neighbor Grant. This grant was dispersed by SMIF throughout the region to provide immediate support for food and direct assistance to those in need.*

### Other recent activity:

- City of Pine Island awarded \$10,000 Small Town Grant
- City of Cannon Falls awarded \$8,000 Small Town Grant
- City of Kenyon awarded 35 gallons of paint

**2.7K** Children Supported

**78** Entrepreneurs Supported