



Community Foundation Matching Grant Opportunity

WHAT

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is offering a Matching Grant Opportunity to Community Foundations utilizing our 501(c)3 to promote grantmaking in our three program areas: Early Childhood, economic development and community vitality.

BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Expand the power of your Foundation's grantmaking: SMIF will match your Community Foundation's project grants \$1 for \$1* to double the investment and impact to your grantees.

DETAILS

- Community Foundations are only allowed ONE matching grant per fiscal year
- Grants must be used for projects focused on Early Childhood, economic development or community vitality
- *SMIF will match \$1 for \$1 up to \$2,000 for a total project investment of up to \$4,000
- Community Foundations can use their endowment earnings and/or project dollars to make grants
- This is a competitive grant opportunity between SMIF's Community Foundations and is on a first come first serve basis
- Dollars will only be granted once SMIF approves the grant proposal and receives the Community Foundation's meeting minutes approving the grant
- Matching grant requests must be made in the same meeting minutes as the original grant approval
- SMIF has allocated \$15,000 for this grantmaking effort with its Community Foundations



SUCCESS STORY: Alden Area Community Foundation

Alden is a small town community, but it has so much spark, ideas, and doers within it. This community is always there whenever it is needed to rally around whatever needs to be done. Alden also has an annual online Silent Auction that brings businesses, organizations and the community all together for a fun fundraising event. This event has raised thousands of dollars for the endowment fund and gives back to the community every year. Their Community Foundation recently took advantage of the matching grant to help their local food shelf. Because of SMIF, we were able to meet different community foundations for inspiration. SMIF has an unmatched knowledge and understanding of small town Minnesota!

--Barb Zeller, president of the Foundation

TIMELINE

July 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026

For more information contact

Alissa Oeltjenbruns

507.214.7023

alissao@smifoundation.org

