



## Area nonprofits receive funding from Initiative Foundation

The Initiative Foundation announced that it recently awarded 21 community grants totaling over \$134,000 to support local projects. The following area organizations were selected as grant recipients:

Cass County Economic Development Corporation, Backus; Ah-Gwah-Ching Healthcare Campus Study - \$2,500 for a citizen group and consultants to identify and study options in expanding a healthcare campus.

Central Lakes College Small Business Development Center, Brainerd; North Central SBDC Business Counseling Project - \$10,000 to expand services to current and prospective small business owners with a focus on stabilizing and growing existing companies.

Region Five Development Commission, Staples; Microlending Feasibility Study - \$5,000 for a feasibility study to determine the viability of a 10-county microlending program.

The Initiative Foundation seeks projects that strengthen central Minnesota communities and address barriers to economic development. Inquiries for applications are accepted on an ongoing basis and are generally reviewed within three weeks of receipt.

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