

HEALTHY COMMUNITY PLAN

Community/Team Name: Crow Wing County

HCP Round/Years: Round 11, July 2002 - June 2004

Project Focus: Update County Wide Comprehensive Plan

Vision/Purpose Statement:

To assist the community in the creation of a comprehensive plan to guide the physical and social future of the greater Crow Wing County area.

Assets:

- Human Resources, good education systems
- Good Governmental Resources
- Natural Resources, lakes, rivers and woods
- Cultural Resources, music and drama groups
- Economic Resources, good mix of businesses and tourism

Challenges:

- Human resources, increasing population density
- Governmental, as we grow there is more conflict
- Natural resources, growth is degrading the quality of our natural resources
- Economic resources, need more livable wage jobs, affordable housing, non lakeshore development

Desired Outcomes:

- Protection of the Natural Environment
- Preservation of Rural Character
- Economic Development, living wages, sustainable, diversification of employment opportunities
- Housing, the lack of affordable housing for working families throughout the county.

Follow Up Grants and Loans:

- \$2,500- IF grant for development of ordinance to support Comprehensive Plan (June 2004)
- \$39,500- County has sent 20 lake associations through HLRP training. Eight of these groups have earned HLRP Implementation grants (Nov. 2004)
- \$10,000- IF grant for Meth Initiative (Sept. 2004)

Key Accomplishments:

- County housing survey completed
- Completion of Comprehensive Plan, adopted 4/27/04
- Adopted updated Ordinances to implement goals of Comprehensive Plan on 4/13/05
- Begun work on "Future Land Use Map" to serve as the basis for encouraging urban density where existing or planned infrastructure has capacity to support it, and "conservation overlay districts" in areas where preservation of open space, rural character, and natural resources is instead the planning objective.

Date Updated: January 24, 2007