



Initiative Foundation at work in  
**WRIGHT COUNTY**

**\$686,259**

in local donations to the Initiative Foundation.

**\$5.8 MILLION**

returned to Wright County in grants and loans.

**Our Mission:**

To empower people to build thriving communities and a vibrant region across Central Minnesota.

405 First Street SE  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
(877) 632-9255  
[ifound.org](http://ifound.org)

**Return on Investment**

For every local dollar contributed, the Initiative Foundation has invested **\$8.42** back into Wright County.

**Economic Impact**

[1986 to present]

- Awarded 249 grants totaling **\$1.42 million**
- 68 loans totaling **\$4.2 million**
- Secured **1,061** quality jobs
- Leveraged **\$28.7 million** in private business financing

# WRIGHT COUNTY Investment Highlight

For a full listing of Initiative Foundation investments in Wright County, Contact us at (877) 632-9255.

## Grants Thriving Economy, Thriving Communities

Annandale Area Community Team	Community Field Day event
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota, St. Cloud	College Bound Developing Leaders for Life
Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services, Inc.	Financial Resiliency through Social Enterprise
Christian Social Services, Inc.	Monticello Help Center Capacity Building and Expansion Plan
City of Montrose	Mixed-use development project
City of Rockford	Business expansion and development
Crow River Org. of Water Joint Powers, Buffalo	Engaging youth in aquatic invasive species prevention
Delano School District	Kids art program; RISE program for those with disabilities
Economic Development Partnership of Wright County	Marketing and site selection; youth CEO program
Greater Lake Sylvia Association	Aquatic Invasive Species prevention strategies
Monticello School District	PreK-Grade 3 alignment
Rivers of Hope, Monticello	Violence intervention and prevention
RiverWorks Community Development Organization, Rockford	Social enterprise venture
Wright County Community Action, Inc.	Raising a Reader program
Wright Technical Center, Buffalo	Career exploration and entrepreneurship for youth

## Business Financing Local Ownership, Quality Jobs

BK Properties dba IKER Manufacturing, LLC., St. Michael	CNC machining
Bollin Properties, LLC., dba Cowgirl Tuff Company, Cokato	Western clothes wholesaler
Cinch Systems, Inc., St. Michael	Hardware/software company
Clay Leasing, LLC, St. Michael	Aggregate equipment dealer
Maple Lake Veterinary Properties, LLC	Veterinary Clinic
Plug Technologies, Hanover	Manufacturer of rubber inflatable pipe plugs
The Asphalt Company, Inc., Monticello	Asphalt coating and sealing
CB Machining & Engineering, Buffalo	Precision Machine Shop

## Charitable Funds Activating Generosity

Delano Area Community Foundation | Delano Emergency Family Fund | Dorn Family Fund | Manufacturing Fund of Central Minnesota | Minnesota Pioneer Park Endowment Fund | Wright County Historical Society Fund

## Technical Assistance Investing in Talent

Eden Medical, Howard Lake	Patent application and support
Pellco Machine, St. Michael	International sales and marketing analysis

## Community Action The Power of Partnership

With a workforce shortage affecting much of Greater Minnesota, the Initiative Foundation looks to support projects that support a healthy labor pool. One such project, Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO), a program of the Wright County Economic Development Partnership, introduces high school students to entrepreneurial possibilities by exploring careers and developing youth-led business plans.

The number of clients served and the quantity of food distributed is soaring at Wright County Community Action (WCA) in Maple Lake, thanks to the efforts of Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) service member Amy Kortisses and her team. WCA clients have increased by 67 percent, and food distribution is up by more than 30,000 pounds since the Initiative Foundation-supported project got under way a year ago.

A first-of-its-kind boat decontamination station is being installed by the Greater Lake Sylvia Association to interrupt the spread of invasive species. Invasive plants can hinder swimmers, clog motors and smother fish habitat. A \$650,000 grant from the Initiative Foundation and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council will support the inspection/decontamination station installation near the South Haven-area lake and will help to enact other supporting efforts.