

Arrowhead Intelligent Region Project List

Updated: June 2021

Project Owner	Project Name	Project Description
Iron Range Tourism Bureau <i>(with support from ReVive Virginia)</i>	Casual Co-working and Welcoming Communities	To promote the City of Virginia and the surrounding area as attractive and welcoming to new residents through continued marketing and by creating a casual co-working space at an existing business with internet upgrades for remote workers and twice-monthly "Jelly events" where people who work from home can gather for networking and comradery. http://www.workatjelly.com/ Highlighting Family Friendly workplaces will give employers another recruiting tool, and job seekers a way of identifying employers who may provide flexible schedules, onsite services, or other ways of serving families. A service design project will identify ways newcomers can be better served and welcomed, and a Homeward Bound component encompasses various efforts to create a sense of community among residents and newcomers alike.
Itasca Economic Development Corporation	LaunchMN – Innovate 218	To extend the impact of Itasca County's participation in LaunchMN, a statewide collaborative effort to accelerate the growth of startups and amplify Minnesota as a national leader in innovation. Innovate 218 will bring together a network of partners; create a brand and marketing outreach strategy to reach entrepreneurs, identify gaps, and build resources to support them; and hold a "Startup Innovation Workshop - Unleashing the Power of Your Idea", which consists of three information sessions, one 9-week cohort of training for up to 24 entrepreneurs, followed by a second 9-week session of up to 6 entrepreneurs that are more advanced in their process. This is based on the Lean Startup Model designed for the entrepreneurial process and is not currently offered in our region by us or any of our partners.
Minnesota Children's Press	Arrowhead Children's Publishing Cooperative: An 18-month Collaboration in Applied Innovation	<p>To deliver an outdoors, GIS-based approach to teaching spatial thinking, environmental stewardship, writing, illustrating, and publishing for children in Cook County that may be expanded throughout the Arrowhead region.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Litter Lab field season - students will collect litter in Grand Marais and the Lake Superior shoreline and use ArcGIS Mapping software to map its location. 2. Students will analyze the Litter Lab data, propose solutions, and write an illustrate the book, and present the results to the Grand Marais City Council. 3. Field test and focus group the book, model, methods, curriculum, and teaching templates with Arrowhead region peers, and coordinate a 7-county outreach campaign. 4. Conduct 2 civic journalism workshops in Arrowhead region where youth and mentors teach adults practical digital media competencies. 5. Integrate findings from Arrowhead region feedback from civic journalism workshops and create free online curriculum. Sell Litter Lab field guide to fund civic projects. 6. Finalize report to local govt and business leaders, finalize website and curriculum, social media campaign, continue to present findings to community groups.

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100 Rural Women <i>(with support from Minnesota Children's Press)</i>	Cooperative Business Model: Arrowhead Children's Publishing	To conduct research to identify and define cooperative and collaborative publishing business and financial models to support creative and cutting-edge publishing product utilizing local talents to support the growth of impactful and engaging children's publishing in the Arrowhead Region. The project is specifically designed to complement and support the work of Minnesota Children's Press.
The Northspan Group, Inc. <i>(with support from Northland Foundation)</i>	Welcoming Community	To create Welcoming Community programming for Northeast Minnesota. The programming aims to transform leadership practices in the Northland to recognize the diversity that exists and will continue to grow in its communities and seeks to bridge a serious, growing gap in our local and national discourse. Fostering welcoming is one step in the development of more generous, inclusive, and engaged communities that can work toward eliminating the opportunity gaps that exist in northeast Minnesota. We believe that as we gain greater digital access equity & inclusion across our region the more welcoming our communities will become.
Range Association of Municipalities and Schools <i>(with support from ISD 2142)</i>	St. Louis County School District Wireless Broadband Project	To map internet speeds at the homes of all of the students in the St. Louis County school district, and mapping out a wireless broadband network to achieve the highest level of coverage for the most students. Utilization of existing towers will be considered along with water towers to reduce expenses.
Smart North <i>(with support from the Regents of the U of MN)</i>	Smart Street Lights & Mobility Hubs, Grand Rapids	To plan for and implement a pilot project around smart streetlights and mobility hubs in the City of Grand Rapids. The infrastructure will allow different city departments to access and share data, allowing robust 5G connectivity throughout the city, and providing municipal WiFi access. Grand Rapids was chosen as the pilot community because of the autonomous vehicle mobility initiative that will be launched in September 2021. ("Smart Mobility Hubs" are interactive kiosks that bring a city's transportation options together at a single location so users can get where they need to go efficiently and affordably. Amenities available at Smart Mobility Hubs include WiFi, bike/scooter-share, bike racks, ride-share pick-up/drop off zones, car sharing parking, EV charging, etc.)



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