

Statewide Rural RFP 2026

Strategy Areas:

Small Communities

City	Organization	Purpose	Award
Hanska	City of Hanska	capital support for ADA improvements at the Hanska Community Center in rural Minnesota	\$60,000
Winger	City of Winger	capital support to make community center improvements in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Ely	Ely Area Community Foundation	capital support for the Ely Community Hub Outdoor Pavilion Project in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Cass Lake	City of Cass Lake	capital support to make ADA accessible improvements to the library in rural Minnesota	\$25,000
Kilkenny	City of Kilkenny	capital support for community center/library renovations and a new bandshell as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$157,600
Nicollet	City of Nicollet	project support to study housing needs, economic development priorities, workforce challenges as part of the Small Communities Program in rural Minnesota	\$30,000
Program Total			\$372,600

Rural Placemaking

City	Organization	Purpose	Award
Verndale	Friends of Frog Tree Farm	project support for the development of the Minnesota Black Rural History Trail in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Henderson	Minnesota Songwriter Sanctuary	capital support for a mobile festival stage in rural Minnesota	\$120,000
Jasper	Reclaim Community	capital support for the Jasper School repurpose and rehabilitation project in rural Minnesota	\$150,000
Fergus Falls	A Place to Belong	capital support to transition into Fergus Falls location to expand access and strengthen programming in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Morton	Dakota Wicohan	project support to develop and launch the Dakota Language and Cultural Institute as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$200,000
Saint Paul	Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research	project support for “Sanar Creando: Healing the Passport Blues” project as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$150,000
Redby	Nisookamig Corp	project support for a master-apprentice Ojibwe language cohort model as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$150,000

City	Organization	Purpose	Award
Federal Dam	City of Federal Dam	project support to create a community gathering space in City Hall as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$150,000
Slayton	Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership	project support to improve community engagement through a Sustainable Housing Creative-in-Residence pilot as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$120,000
Worthington	Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council Inc	project support to create outdoor community gathering space as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$75,000
Morris	Conexiones	project support to expand organizational capacity as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$75,000
Red Wing	Honoring Dakota Project	project support for the Dakota Lifeways Community Initiative as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Callaway	White Earth Land Recovery Project	project support for Voices of the Land Media Project as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$40,000
Faribault	Friends of Buckham Memorial Library	project support for Stories at Home Community Storytelling & Literacy program as part of the Rural Placemaking program in rural Minnesota	\$30,000
Pelican Rapids	The Bridge Center	capital support to renovate and activate The Bridge Center as a safe, accessible, and welcoming physical space for community connection as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$200,000
Fergus Falls	Onyx Collective	project support to build organizational capacity and expand Mobile Resiliency Hubs for Black residents as part of the Rural Placemaking program in Western and Central rural Minnesota	\$150,000
Saint Paul	Springboard for the Arts	project support to deliver programming for rural cultural organizers as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$150,000
New York Mills	New York Mills Arts Retreat	capital support to renovate and expand the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$100,000
Virginia	Cultures, Humanities, and Arts on the Iron Range	capital and capacity support to renovate and staff the Restorative and Community Empowerment Exchange organization coworking space as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$100,000
Saint Paul	Minnesota Humanities Center	project support to deliver Sketches of Minnesota in additional small communities as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Ottertail	Ottertail Community & Wellness Center	capital support to create a community gathering garden and greenhouse as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$30,000
Shevlin	Buzzle Township	capital support for a welcoming community space by restoring Pinewood Hall in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Program Total			\$2,240,000

Community Wealth-Building

City	Organization	Purpose	Award
Grand Marais	Northwoods Food Project	project support to strengthen Cook County's local food economy in rural Minnesota	\$90,000
Northfield	Commons Land Community	project support for a resilient food system through a 100-acre farmland stewardship project in rural Minnesota	\$248,000
Bemidji	North Star Neighbors	capacity support to establish a sustainable acquisition and rehabilitation system and aging homeowner transition model in rural Minnesota	\$150,000
Minneapolis	University of Minnesota Foundation	FBO University of Minnesota Extension Department of Community Development for project support for a generational wealth transfer community engagement program in rural Minnesota	\$150,000
Duluth	Northeast Entrepreneur Fund, Inc.	capacity support to expand access to capital for underserved entrepreneurs through an impact investment program in rural Minnesota	\$125,000
Eagan	Cooperative Development Fund of CDS	FBO Cooperative Development Services for capacity support to provide worker ownership education and conversion support to businesses and tribal communities in rural Minnesota	\$100,000
Little Falls	Little Falls Food Co-Op dba Purple Carrot Market	FBO Little Falls Food Co-Op dba Purple Carrot Market for capital support to create a more sustainable and resilient food system through the establishment of a food co-op in rural Minnesota	\$90,000
Rochester	The Village Agricultural Cooperative	project support for a resilient local food system with a Hmong community-led, sustainable farm system in rural Minnesota	\$60,000
Preston	Fillmore County Economic Development Authority	capacity support to identify shared values and priorities to better guide decisions around housing, community vitality, and adapt to changing needs in rural Minnesota	\$60,000
Little Falls	Initiative Foundation	capacity support to strengthen educational opportunity and long-term student success through the establishment and growth of a dedicated Education Foundation in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Murdock	City of Murdock	project support to establish a pop-up entrepreneurial vendor space in rural Minnesota	\$30,000
Elbow Lake	West Central Minnesota Communities Action Inc.	project support to address affordable home ownership and maintenance challenges by providing a tool library for incarcerated work-release workers and Community Land Trust home owners in rural Minnesota	\$30,000
Program Total			\$1,183,000

Capacity Building

City	Organization	Purpose	Award
Mankato	Region Nine Development Commission	project support for housing, community and economic development and clean energy projects in rural Minnesota	\$200,000
Duluth	Justice North	capacity building for new Americans in rural Minnesota	\$200,000
Bemidji	Bemidji Pride	project support to strengthen Pride Support Network's organizational and financial systems and program delivery, and build a regional coalition as part of the Capacity Building Program in rural Minnesota	\$130,000
Bemidji	Mewinzha Ondaadiziike Wiigaming	project support to prepare for and design a culturally relevant capital campaign and begin construction of a teaching lodge as part of the Capacity Building Program in rural Minnesota	\$100,000
Long Prairie	WAVE Saludos Welcome Center	project support to strengthen its ability to operate as a stable, community-rooted access point for immigrant and refugee residents as part of the Capacity Building Program in rural Minnesota	\$60,000
Naytahwaush	Manoomin Arts Initiative	capacity support to develop art acquisition consulting skills and processes to connect governments, nonprofits, and businesses with local art as part of the Rural Placemaking Program in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Program Total			\$740,000

Total - \$4,535,600