

## 2024 Small Communities/Rural Placemaking Grants

<b>4 Directions Development</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>
The project aims to address historical trauma by providing workshops, establishing monthly talking circles in the Red Lake communities, and adding new participants annually. It will also foster partnerships with organizations and collaborate with local Tribal programs to deliver services that support community members in addressing these issues.	
<b>All Nations Rise</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
Address historical trauma in White Earth communities by equipping parents and children with civic and cultural knowledge and skills needed to develop healthy relationships and support leaders in creating positive change.	
<b>Ashby Legacy Fund</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
Enhance recreational opportunities and create vibrant and inviting public space for families and children to enjoy by refurbishing soccer fields and installing new ADA-compliant playground equipment in the park. Foster community engagement and collaboration in the installation process by engaging volunteers and hosting a celebration upon completion.	
<b>Bear Paws Cultural Art</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
Preserve, revitalize, and share Ojibwe cultural heritage, foster mutual understanding and respect with our neighbors, and facilitate community healing through art. Provide traditional and contemporary Indigenous Art classes taught by local Master Indigenous artists that are free and open to the public.	
<b>Bigfork Valley Community Foundation</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
Improve community aesthetics, enhance community amenities, display cooperation with neighboring communities for mutual benefit and lay the groundwork for current and future development in the Edge of the Wilderness area.	
<b>Blackduck Area Seniors</b>	<b>\$14,000</b>
Replace flooring in the Blackduck Area Senior Center.	
<b>Boys and Girls Club of the Leech Lake Area</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
Upgrades to improve attractiveness and accessibility of Club sites to serve more families in the Leech Lake community over the next two years.	
<b>Breitung Township</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

Planning and design support to complete the Vermilion Loop Trail project, providing an accessible community amenity to improve health and fitness and support community safety for residents and tourists of all ability and mobility levels.

**Buck Lake Improvement Club** **\$30,000**

Replace deck access on Buck Lake. Replace and repair the Club's roof, insulate where needed and install gutters. Update and move the current outhouse to meet County code.

**Cass Lake Rural Volunteer Fire Association** **\$125,000**

Construct new fire hall to protect, serve and educate community members

**Chatfield Center for the Arts** **\$30,000**

Increase civic engagement and social connectedness by improving the functionality, aesthetics, and accessibility of the Chatfield Center for the Arts facility.

**City of Akeley** **\$100,000**

Construct a new restroom facility in the Akeley City Park.

**City of Baudette** **\$20,000**

Create a comprehensive plan to guide the future growth and development for the City.

**City of Blackduck** **\$10,000**

Restore the Historic Duck in downtown Blackduck.

**City of Buhl** **\$20,000**

Update the current municipal Comprehensive Plan to guide Buhl's municipal development for the next ten years. Prepare a comprehensive housing study so they can qualify for much-needed housing development funding.

**City of Calumet/Calumet Public Library** **\$100,000**

Complete maintenance study for City Hall. Identify City Hall updates that are ADA compliant to accommodate a variety of events.

**City of Cass Lake** **\$75,000**

Construct a trailhead park to use restrooms, bike repair station and kiosks with information on local trail networks and routes.

**City of Deer River** **\$50,000**

Complete a feasibility study for a community facility to house nonprofit and for-profit businesses in downtown Deer River.

**City of Deer River / Smart North** **\$20,000**

The initiative aims to bridge the digital divide in rural communities by expanding Deer River Tech Hub programming, recruiting additional youth, and providing essential support services like meals, clothing, and mentorship to improve school outcomes such as grades and attendance. It will also promote tech careers, offering certifications to young women, guiding high school students through career pathways, and securing internships or jobs for participants.

**City of Elmore** **\$35,000**

Develop a community park to offer intergenerational activities and improve Elmore's attractiveness to residents of all ages.

**City of Federal Dam, MN, LLFS fiscal sponsor** **\$90,000**

Replace firefighting equipment and tires. Replace tanker/tender and engine.

**City of Finlayson** **\$20,000**

Create a comprehensive plan to guide the future growth and development for the City of Finlayson.

**City of Green Isle** **\$20,000**

Create a Master Trail Plan to develop a network of trails that connect neighborhoods, parks and community amenities. Create a comprehensive plan to guide the City's future growth and development.

**City of Kinney** **\$5,000**

Enhance Kinney's sense of place and community pride by installing aesthetic and functional improvements to public spaces.

**City of Lanesboro** **\$20,000**

Complete a comprehensive plan to ensure sustainable growth, equitable development, and a high quality of life for today's residents and the residents of the future.

**City of Lengby MN** **\$50,000**

Celebrate and preserve Lengby's heritage, culture and natural beauty. Enhance public space and promote inclusivity and sustainability. Foster community engagement and social connections. Promote sustainable development, artistic expression and community well-being.

**City of Littlefork** **\$20,000**

Create a comprehensive plan to guide the future growth and development for the City of Littlefork.

**City of Longville** **\$35,000**

Renovate Longville's playground and park to improve safety and accessibility and create a welcoming space for year-round and seasonal residents of the area.

**City of Mahnomen** **\$90,000**

Spur community vitality and economic development by creating a beautiful, well-lit, outdoor community gathering space with an outdoor/indoor dining establishment that will be owned by the City and managed by a local entrepreneur. Upgrade city welcome signs.

**City of Marble** **\$15,000**

Revitalize Marble Civic Club to promote communitywide events. Establish food pantry in partnership with the local food shelf. Replace downtown benches and amenities. Replace tables, chairs and supplies at the community center.

**City of Nashwauk** **\$40,000**

Renovate customer service desk at City Hall. Renovate entrance at City Hall. Install ADA compliant/gender neutral bathroom at City Hall.

**City of Palisade** **\$90,000**

Renovate the City Hall entrance and restroom to make them accessible for all residents.

**City of Richville** **\$10,000**

Install an interior door and procure some basic office furniture in a community building to create the first-ever city office in Richville.

**City of Tower** **\$35,000**

Establish an ADA-compliant kayak launch on Lake Vermilion.

**City of Waldorf** **\$70,000**

Support planning, design, and construction of the Waldorf Veterans Memorial Park as a centerpiece for civic activity in the community

**City of Walnut Grove** **\$45,000**

Foster small business growth and local entrepreneurship by renovating a downtown building to co-working and community meeting space.

**City of Warba-American Legion Campground** **\$50,000**

Improve park, campground and swimming beach at the American Legion Campground near Warba.

**City of Warren** **\$65,000**

Construct a new childcare center in Warren and evaluate its impact in attracting and retaining local and regional workforce.

**City of Winger** **\$35,000**

Replace sidewalk at Memorial Park. Construct playground, picnic shelter and walking/biking track.

**Embarrass Region Fair Association** **\$100,000**

Promote community cohesion and resilience through much needed safety and accessibility improvements to the Embarrass Region Fairgrounds.

**Fond du Lac Reservation** **\$120,000**

Engage youth and families while increasing mountain biking participation and knowledge in Indian Country. Deliver social and economic benefits to the surrounding communities by enhancing bike infrastructure, promoting through school physical education programs, and ensuring accessibility

**Friends of the Finland Community** **\$30,000**

Promote community-wide interactions, pride, and volunteerism through upgrades to the grounds of the Clair Nelson Center, including renovations to the ballfield, sport court, and playground.

**Giiwednong Museum** **\$90,000**

Nurture a sense of community and celebration of diversity through multicultural programming with a focus on Anishinaabe culture and history. Partner with regional media and civic organizations to increase visibility of and grow markets for Indigenous artists in the region.

**Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa** **\$70,000**

Provide a safe, new playground where the children of Grand Portage can engage in outdoor play, imagination and exploration. Increase family time with benches, outdoor seating and other aspects to intrigue families to get out and play. Provide more opportunities during the school day and during the summer months for summer camp.

**Grove City Area Care LAH Program** **\$10,000**

Implement the Pathway to Fitness program to improve amenities and create opportunities for safe physical activity to encourage intergenerational engagement and learning.

**Gunflint Trail Historical Society/Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center** **\$25,000**

Bring the stories of Anishinaabe people more fully into Chik-Wauk Museum by constructing a new exhibit with intergenerational engagement that celebrates past and present Anishinaabe traditions and contributions of Gunflint Trail Community members and Border Lakes region residents. Include a timeline,

audio/video stories of area Anishinaabe families, artifacts and artwork that reinforces the message of contemporary Anishinaabe.

**Horizon Public Health** **\$50,000**

The project promotes mental wellness and belonging for Grant County students through school-based interventions, including mapping sessions to identify needs and presenting findings to city councils and school boards. It collaborates with educators on civic education, works with city governments on community projects, and celebrates successes with student-led presentations at community events.

**Iron Range Historical Society City of McKinley fiscal sponsor** **\$20,000**

Replace current playground equipment. Closeout project activities, invite project implementers to a groundbreaking event.

**Itasca Ski and Outing Club, Inc.** **\$75,000**

Replace existing snowmaking equipment with more efficient and reliable equipment

**Lake of the Woods EDA** **\$25,000**

Increase the visibility of local culture and arts by partnering with local artists and artisans to create new signage highlighting area natural and cultural assets.

**Lakes Area Yes Network** **\$10,000**

Improve overall wellness for White Earth-area youth by enhancing community connectedness, increasing access to creative learning activities, and supporting academic achievement.

**Madison Art & Innovation Center** **\$75,000**

Create vibrant and accessible spaces in Bellingham, Marietta, and Madison by improving parks, building an accessible community center, and enhancing school playground infrastructure. Use grant application process to empower small communities and improve their ability to secure other sources of funding.

**MAHUBE-OTWA Community Action Partnership, Inc.** **\$120,000**

Promote economic and social mobility for low-income residents in Mahnomen County by exploring new office and community space for MAHUBE-OTWA. Community and artist input will shape the space's design, ensuring it reflects local culture, nature, and well-being while addressing the needs of elders, families, and youth.

**Maji ya Chai Land Sanctuary** **\$90,000**

Create a welcoming space in nature for community gatherings and outdoor recreation, with a focus on fostering connections and supporting BIPOC residents. Efforts include engaging residents to shape the Land Sanctuary's use, strengthening partnerships with regional organizations, and furnishing a yurt as the first dedicated community gathering space.

**Manoomin Arts Initiative**

**\$90,000**

Build the capacity of Manoomin Arts Initiative to activate accessible community creative spaces through the purchase and redevelopment a building that will meet the needs of local artist-entrepreneurs and culture-bearers.

**Minnesota Children's Press**

**\$20,000**

Promote early literacy for K-4 children in Grand Marais while fostering intergenerational learning about Native American mail carrier John Beargrease's contributions to North Shore history. In a screen-free and social media-free environment, children and mentors will create a book, a bronze sculpture, and a website to share Beargrease's story, while also training youth in communication skills for community events.

**Minnesota Seeds of Justice**

**\$50,000**

Use the Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) approach to engage local youth in shaping the design and functions of a cultural community resource center for Worthington's diverse population. Arts and culture will be integrated into the process, with creative collaborations to share findings and celebrate the comprehensive plan with the community and stakeholders.

**Mni Sota Arts**

**\$80,000**

Renovate the Mni Sota Arts building to support Native and BIPOC artists by creating a welcoming community space. Improvements include a new facade, ADA-compliant bathrooms, energy-efficient HVAC, updated lighting and electrical systems, and kitchen upgrades to enhance gatherings and foster a sense of safety and nourishment.

**Nashwauk-Keewatin School District**

**\$15,000**

Replace percussion equipment for the N-K School District Band program

**North Central Minnesota Farm & Antique Association**

**\$30,000**

Insulate, heat and finish a portion of the NCMFS&IA building to expand the number of events the organization can host year as well as opening the facility for use by other community groups and individuals.

**North House Folk School**

**\$75,000**

Increase the capacity of North House Folk School to meet the growing needs of local residents, students, and event participants through the building of a new Welcome Center.

**Northern Itasca Joint Powers Board** **\$20,000**

Update the current comprehensive plan to guide future growth and development for the Edge of the Wilderness area communities.

**Oldenburg Arts and Cultural Community** **\$50,000**

Promote creative placemaking in Carlton and the Fond du Lac Reservation by exploring the repurposing of the Old Jail as a Community Center for Creatives and launching the Carlton Area Arts and Culture Commission. The goal is to foster cross-sector collaboration, support local artists and culture bearers, and integrate arts and culture into community development efforts for inclusive and sustainable prosperity.

**One Heartland** **\$70,000**

Design and implement programs tailored to the social and recreational needs of rural children to reduce isolation and foster a sense of community. Ensure all camp activities are accessible and inclusive to address the needs of campers of varying ability levels and backgrounds.

**Pelican Rapids United Soccer Association** **\$25,000**

Promote community cohesion in Pelican Rapids' diverse community through renovations to Thompson Park, including replacing the soccer goals and playground expansion.

**Prairie Island Indian Community** **\$85,000**

Educate Minnesotans on Bdewakantunwan perspectives of living with the Wakpa (river) and addresses flooding through documentation, historic preservation, and public engagement. Create a map and artwork panel for a public park, producing a guidebook, hosting town meetings, and launching a website to share these insights and foster community understanding.

**Pride Support Network** **\$90,000**

Address social isolation among LGBTQ2S+ individuals by creating safe, affirming spaces for connection, community building, and support, with a focus on Indigenous/Two-Spirit identities. Serve as a trusted hub for resources and outreach, fostering a welcoming environment that encourages rural residents, particularly youth, to stay and thrive.

**Regional Native Public Defense Corporation** **\$70,000**

Revitalize downtown Cass Lake and boost community pride by transforming the RNPDC office building from a symbol of neglect into a vibrant, welcoming community center. This includes exterior wall reconstruction, comprehensive



renovations, and improved signage to enhance public awareness of RNPDC’s mission and resources.

**Something Cool, Inc. \$90,000**

Foster community engagement across all ages by leveraging local creativity and skills to create art installations reflecting the community's heritage and pride. Visible landscape changes and a strategic plan ensure long-term impact, with a celebratory focus on participants’ contributions as a gift to the community.

**Spang Township \$41,000**

Renovate the town hall to serve as a hub for communication and services during severe weather events or other emergencies.

**Warroad Community Development \$25,000**

Draft a comprehensive strategic plan for Warroad, focusing on a shared vision for a vibrant and inclusive future through community and stakeholder engagement. A steering group will be created, and a consultant hired to support environmental scans, a SWOT analysis, and engagement efforts, incorporating input from diverse community members and culminating in the plan’s adoption by key local organizations.

**Winnebago EDA \$120,000**

Improve community sustainability and revitalize neighborhoods by piloting a program to renovate existing affordable housing stock. Develop a plan to sustain the program for a minimum of five years.

**TOTAL: \$4,000,000**