



SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE
FOUNDATION

IMPACT & SUPPORT

\$15.2 million

March 1, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021

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*Southwest Initiative Foundation was born from crisis, created **35 years ago** to keep our communities strong and vibrant. We've been moving our strategic work forward, and when the COVID-19 crisis hit, we also launched immediate emergency support.*

We've been leaning into our values—especially equity, collaboration and optimism—as we continue a thoughtful and impactful response for relief and recovery.

What can you do to help?

- Stay informed using information from the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov) and [Minnesota Department of Health](https://www.health.state.mn.us) and check the source of information you see for credibility and accuracy before sharing it on social media, with colleagues or your family.
- Follow federal and state guidelines for work, school and social settings to reduce the spread and speed of COVID-19.
- Learn how to talk with children about what's happening. Be honest and reassuring. The CDC has a [coronavirus resource page](#) to help you. [PBS](#) has a list of tips and resources for how to talk with children about racism.
- Put empathy and kindness first. People around you are experiencing fear and disruptions to daily lives. Think about ways you can help members of your community who are especially impacted during this time through racism and discrimination, food insecurity, lost wages and business revenue, child care and school changes and more.

We must keep working hard—and working together—to ensure all southwest Minnesotans get through these difficult days and share in a brighter future!