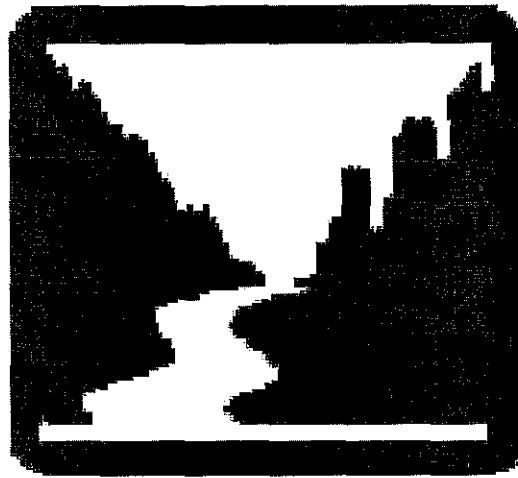


FY2006 Annual Report

East Central Regional Development Commission



**100 Park Street South
Mora, Minnesota 55051
(320) 679-4065**

Serving Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine Counties

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 1, 2005—June 30, 2006

Chisago County

Bob Cupit
Dave Giese
Jeremy Kalin
Ben Montzka

Isanti County

Richard Hansen
George Larson
Melvin Larson
Marlys Palmer

Kanabec County

Dave Chmiel
Bill Hallstrom
Jerry Nelson
Dave Patenaude

Mille Lacs County

Linda Evans
Robert Hoefert
Brian Humphrey
Barbara Welty

Pine County

Eileen Anderson
Frank Grundmeier
Robert Musgrove
Paul Venhuizen

School Board Representatives

Edward Hill, Southern
Steve Odegard, Northern

Native American Tribal Rep.

Al Olson

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC) is a public agency. The board members are represented by officials appointed by county boards, townships, municipalities, school boards and citizens at large.

The ECRDC is funded through a local tax levy and planning/program grants and contracts from state agencies, federal agencies and foundations.

MISSION OF THE EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The mission is to provide leadership and direction through creative problem solving. We do this by initiating projects and programs that lead to creative solutions to regional problems, providing technical assistance and identifying and developing available resources. We serve in a leadership role as an advocate for East Central Minnesota to bring about positive change.

East Central Regional Development Commission

100 Park Street South · Mora, Minnesota 55051

Telephone: (320) 679-4065

Fax: (320) 679-4120

Website: www.region7Erdc.org

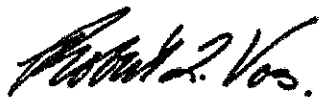
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2006 Annual Report of the East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC). This report lists the accomplishments of the Commission and its staff in fulfilling the ECRDC's mission. This report includes the programs, projects, and related financial information of the ECRDC for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

Since the Commission's formation in 1973, its main priority has been to provide technical assistance and support to its many local units of government, businesses, and citizens. The information contained in this report highlights the variety of programs and services provided by the ECRDC during the past year. You'll see a wide range of activities including the Toward Zero Deaths highway safety program, the Small Business Development Center, the JOBZ program, Senior LinkAge, and programs of our regional Arts Council to name just a few. I hope you find this report useful and informative.

I think you'll agree that the Commission continues to make a remarkable difference in East Central Minnesota. This of course would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the ECRDC Commission, the various advisory committees, our program partners and, of course, our dedicated staff.

Thank you!



Robert L. Voss
Executive Director
robert.voss@ecrdc.org

ECRDC STAFF

July 1, 2005—June 30, 2006

Robert L. Voss
Executive Director

Robert Bollenbeck
Transportation Program Director
Toward Zero Death Coordinator

Andrew Daniels
East Central Senior Resource Center
Outreach Specialist

Dorothy Jones
Finance Officer

Mary Minnick-Daniels
East Central Arts Council Director
Hazard Mitigation Director

Trish Rydlund
Information / Office Manager

Elissa Schley
East Central Senior Resource Center
Outreach Coordinator

Penny Simonsen
East Central Senior Resource Center
Director

Jordan Zeller
Community / Economic Development

FINANCIAL

	FY2006 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2006 REVENUES/ EXPENSES UNAUDITED	FY2007 ADOPTED BUDGET
<u>REVENUES</u>			
Taxes	\$ 218,154	\$ 218,738	\$ 224,699
Aging-CMCOA	\$ 175,318	\$ 190,297	\$ 196,827
EDA	\$ 52,628	\$ 54,919	\$ 52,628
State Arts Board	\$ 101,881	\$ 91,913	\$ 107,330
SMAHC	\$ -	\$ 9,583	\$ 16,700
State Transportation	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
MN/DOT-Transit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Contracts	\$ 30,133	\$ 4,557	\$ 6,000
Interest/Other	\$ 43,086	\$ 26,888	\$ 34,315
Foundations	\$ 23,500	\$ 17,742	\$ 30,000
Dept. of Public Safety	\$ 36,391	\$ 38,997	\$ 22,500
Job Z-Cities	\$ -	\$ 2,727	\$ -
Development Corps.	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 8,750
SBDC	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 8,750
RLF-Interest/Fees	\$ 20,390	\$ 23,478	\$ 15,020
RLF-Repayments	\$ 37,091	\$ 118,639	\$ 58,120
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 798,572	\$ 848,478	\$ 851,639
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
General Fund	\$ 128,582	\$ 122,159	\$ 104,445
RLF-Administration	\$ 12,981	\$ 15,807	\$ 14,783
Hazard Mitigation	\$ 16,391	\$ 15,627	\$ -
State Arts-Administration	\$ 80,639	\$ 63,715	\$ 69,611
RAC Forum-Staffing	\$ -	\$ 9,687	\$ 16,600
McKnight Arts-Administration	\$ 5,500	\$ 9,977	\$ 5,920
State Transportation	\$ 82,795	\$ 74,793	\$ 77,203
Transit Study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Aging Program-Administration	\$ 89,137	\$ 98,433	\$ 111,169
EDA	\$ 70,171	\$ 82,484	\$ 105,256
I & A Program	\$ 155,626	\$ 153,672	\$ 151,158
Contracts	\$ 30,133	\$ 5,924	\$ -
Safe Communities	\$ 20,000	\$ 35,992	\$ 22,500
SBDC	\$ 10,000	\$ 798	\$ 17,500
Job Z	\$ -	\$ 2,727	\$ -
Arts-Pass-thru Grants	\$ 41,342	\$ 41,504	\$ 72,499
RLF Loans	\$ 44,500	\$ 115,000	\$ 50,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 787,797	\$ 848,299	\$ 838,644
Revenues over/under Expenses	\$ 10,775	\$ 179	\$ 12,995
Prior Year Fund Balances	\$ 171,142	\$ 171,142	\$ 171,321
Current Year Fund Balances	\$ 181,917	\$ 171,321	\$ 184,316

EAST CENTRAL SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER

The East Central Senior Resource Center serves older adults, their families, the communities where they reside, and the providers of the services and programs they access. The mission "Fostering development of and access to resources for older adults in East Central Minnesota", sums up the work of the East Central Senior Resource Center (ECSRC).

The paid staff of the ECSRC include director Penny Simonsen, and outreach specialists Elissa Schley and Andrew Daniels. Volunteer staff are vital to the work of the agency. Volunteer staff assist with every aspect of the day-in-day-out work of the ECSRC. They are: Kathleen Berland, Diann Boser, Frances Caron, Alice Everett, Brenda Fornengo, Lynda Hayek, Carol Headman, Wally Hed, Margaret Keillor, Dorothy Lemke, Ella Martens, Lois Mathison, Joan McClay, Rose Peloquin, Joyce Rebischke, Sharon Toenies, Eileen Wasson, and Rose-Marie Westmoreland.

In 1965 the U.S. Congress enacted legislation known as the Older American's Act. The Act authorizes Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to fund local public and non-profit organizations to develop or expand services for persons over 60. Through a contract with the Central Minnesota Council on Aging (AAA), the ECSRC provides services through three broad program areas: development of senior programs; caregiver services; and information, referral and assistance services.

Development of Senior Programs

Senior service provider networks in each county offer an opportunity for providers of aging services from government, non-profit and for-profit sectors to come together. The networking events, while informal in nature, offer opportunities for new partnerships, more communication between service providers and development of new services. Over 450 persons participated in the 22 events.

The State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Department of Human Services has funding available to agencies, businesses and organizations through the Community Services/Service Development funds—with the intent of the resources to be put toward assisting more older adults to remain independently in their communities longer and thus reducing the rate of nursing home admissions by increasing the availability of community-based services. The ECSRC provides a wide range of technical assistance to those applying for the semi-annual funding cycles. Family Pathways and Parnly Senior Housing and Services received funding for caregiver services (\$75,000) and senior housing (\$250,000), respectively. The other fifteen applicants continue to work with the ECSRC to make changes to their proposals and seek other funding sources.

Creating a Value Added Community is a project funded through the Northwest Area Foundation with a focus on com-

munity wealth creation, building community capacity and poverty reduction. Through the funding, a workgroup was formed to create a regional profile and strategic plan for building economic vitality for part of the northern half of the east central region. ECSRC staff participate in this workgroup, as well as several others, representing issues and needs concerning older adults.

The ECSRC offered Elder Depression and Suicide Prevention training to over 30 professional staff in the fall of 2005. Chicago and Isanti County service providers along with ECSRC staff meet on a regular basis to continue the education surrounding mental health issues amongst older adults.

Caregiver Services

The ECSRC expanded the scope of services available to caregivers to include caregiver education sessions, support groups and one-to-one extensive counseling, referred to as "coaching". Caregiver coaches offer help to caregivers to manage and live their life while caring for another person, offers caregivers expert advice, assists caregivers to develop their unique personal action plan, connects caregivers to community resources, helping them see all available options and helps caregivers identify strategies and solutions to remain as a caregiver longer.

The caregiver services are offered in each of the five counties through a collaborative effort with Isle Recreation and Education Center, Parnly Senior Housing and Services and Kanabec County Public Health.

Information, Referral and Assistance Services

The ECSRC is part of a statewide network known as the Senior LinkAge Line®—a telephone based information and assistance service. Trained professionals assist clients in locating a variety of services such as home delivered meals, home-health care, transportation, home repair, recreation, legal assistance and more. In addition, staff provide one-on-one assistance with accessing prescription drug programs (including Medicare Part D), understanding medical bills, insurance claims and Medicare coverage. The individualized help is objective and confidential.

The information, referral and assistance services at the ECSRC responded to 3,621 callers. The estimated savings from only the prescription drug assistance provided was \$4,344,526.

Four Senior Surf Day events taught seniors the basics of computer use and navigating the internet to access information about Medicare, among other things.

The ECSRC resource guide reaches thousands each year. Published yearly, it contains information about many of the services available in the region.

EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL

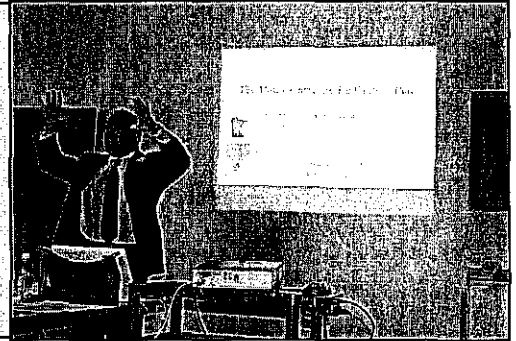
Supporting the enhancement of arts quantity and quality in Region 7E.

The mission of the East Central Arts Council is to improve the quantity and quality of arts experiences in Region 7E by facilitating the production, presentation, and dissemination of art development of arts organizations and also by promoting the growth of individual artists. The East Central Arts Council (ECAC) accomplishes its mission through programs and special initiatives for artists and arts organizations. The FY 2006 work program of the Arts Council included the following: grant programs for organizations such as the Arts Projects Assistance, Art in Our Schools, and the Small Grants Program; individual artist programs such as the McKnight/ECAC Individual Artist and Fellowship Grant Programs, Image-the annual regional art show, the K-12 Scholarship Program; other assistance is provided and includes continuing to host various grant workshops, and providing technical assistance and resource information. Our mission, vision and values are at the heart of the programs and grantees we fund. Our grantee partners are at the forefront of our work to enhance the arts environment in Region 7E. It is their daily work and commitment that expands arts opportunities, increases the quality of life, and enhances the community/economic development in the region. During this fiscal year the ECAC worked with Minnesota Citizens for the Arts to complete both a regional and statewide Economic Impact Study of the Arts.

Individual Artists Grants & Artist Fellowships - The Individual Artist grants are for artists in the region wanting to expand their artistry with a specific arts project. The Fellowship Program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. Funding for these programs are provided by The McKnight Foundation. This year we awarded a total of over \$10,000 in artist grants/fellowships to artist projects.

Art Scholarships for K-12 Students - Region 7E has many young, talented, and energetic artists deserving recognition. As a result, the ECAC, with funding through The McKnight Foundation, offers students in grades K—12 a scholarship opportunity to further their artistic skills. This year the Council recognized 5 students with a total amount of \$1,500. The kids are experiencing a wide range of activities: MusiCamp at Bemidji State; mentorship with an artist/teacher; and a visual art camp.

Randy Cohen, Statistician from Americans for the Arts, presents exciting results on the impact of the arts in Mora, MN. Photo by Matt Paulson used by permission of the Kanabec County Times.



Art in Our Schools Grants - Schools may apply to the East Central Arts Council to help fund special art projects. The funds can support artist residencies, art related field trips, or any special school arts-focused project. This year 5 grants were funded in schools throughout Region 7E. The total amount of grants was \$5,000 for projects. Thousands of local children benefited from this funding.

Art Organization Project & Small Grants - These programs award grants for local or regional arts and cultural projects sponsored/coordinated by organizations, units of government or nonprofits. Funds are available for a variety of arts projects that develop or enhance local arts organizations, artists, or art audiences. Small Grants of up to \$500 and Art Organization Project Grants up to \$5000 are considered. The grants are awarded only with a one-to-one financial match. The grants this year amounted to over \$35,000. The total project costs were almost \$90,000. A wide variety of arts events were made possible such as: Audubon Center of the North Woods hosting a project titled Four Seasons in the North Woods; Kanabec County Artists Tour event entitled "Sticks and Stones"; Mille Lacs Area Community Education Consortium hosted the Image Art Show at the Rolf Olsen Center; Harmony in the Parks Concert Series in the city of Lindstrom; memoir mentorship for Tracy Gulliver; website creation to support publication of Diane Wilson's book; Buffalo Gals concert hosted by the Audubon Center of the North Woods; Kanabec County Art Association put on a watercolor workshop with Nancy Scherer; and Tiger Club Day Care in Princeton took field trips to the Stages Theater to see "Seussical" and the Old Log Theater to see "Wind in the Willow".

ECAC Advisory Committee

Amanda Thompson Rundahl, Chair
Linda Evans, ECRDC Liaison
Nancy McCracken, Ex Officio
Carl Long

TJ Musgrove
Lenore Whitney Karash
Jeremy Kalin
Krystal Hunsaker

Colleen Hendershot DeJong
Margery Swanson
Katherine Salverda

TRANSPORTATION

State Transportation Improvement Program - The State Transportation Improvement Program indicates this region will receive more than \$45 million for transportation improvement projects for the three year period of FY 04-06. This includes projects on major state and county roads, transit vehicle capital, bridges, and enhancements. All five counties will benefit from state and/or federal transportation funding.

Regional Transportation Planning - Involved with regional transportation planning efforts such as the Cambridge-Isanti Transportation Committee developing a long range transportation plan. Also involved with other regional planning efforts related to transportation improvements.

Area Transportation Partnership - The ECRDC region is comprised of five counties, yet the counties are in three different Mn/DOT Districts/ATPs. The role of the ECRDC is to make recommendations for projects for federal funding consideration. Upon RDC approval, a list of prioritized projects is submitted to various ATPs. For the District 3 ATP, the ECRDC conducts a solicitation and prioritization process for Isanti, Kanabec, and Mille Lacs County projects. Approximately, \$1.3 million is allocated to local projects. The ECRDC also works closely with Metro Division and District 1 ATP for projects from Chisago and Pine Counties in the federal funding process.

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) - The ECRDC provides staffing for the TAC whose function is to provide recommendations to the ECRDC as well as a forum for regional transportation issues. The TAC generally meets four to five times per year, to consider project funding and other regional issues.

Technical Assistance - Continued with our technical assistance program by responding to local transportation task forces such as the TH 8 Task Force in Chisago County and Soo Line Trail Committee in Mille Lacs County. Also, provided information to groups such as the Active Living By Design Committee for development of a trail connecting Cambridge and Isanti. Support continues to transit groups such as Heartland Express Programs in Chisago, Isanti, and Mille Lacs counties. Provide limited assistance to Section 5310 grant program applicants which provides grant vehicles to assist elderly and disabled individuals.

Toward Zero Deaths - For the past four years the ECRDC has been coordinating a highway safety initiative on the TH 65/95 TZD Corridor. The corridor includes the cities of Princeton, Cambridge, and Isanti. More recently, the RDC has focused efforts in Isanti County. Funding has been available through a Safe Communities Grant from the Department of Public Safety. Successful activities implemented have included a billboard, traffic safety messages at the local movie theatre, media releases to promote seat belt use and concentration on driving. A community steering committee provides direction to the project. Over the past year, the TZD initiative has also focused on the drinking & driving issue in our region. We have developed, and continue to do so, a unique liquor provider partnership aimed at helping to address the issue. Additional funding has been sought for the project's continuation.

Transportation Advisory Committee

Julie Dresel, Chair
Richard Heilman
Barbara Welty
Richard Larson
Tyler Sinclair
Mel Larson, Vice Chair

Mike Moilanen
Jackie Forner
Greg Nikodym
Mark Lebrun
Bill Malin

Others

Brian Vollum
Kelvin Howieson

Steve Voss
Nick Thompson



On May 3, 2006 Street Smart was presented to approximately 600 Cambridge-Isanti High school students. The goal of the program was to educate youth about the importance of seat belt use, the dangers of drinking and driving, and potential consequences of poor decisions related to these. Pictured above are: back row - Mel Larson, Chris Stocks, Pat Kelly, front row - Bob Bollenbeck, Rick Wilson, Marlys Palmer and John Schlager.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy/ EDA Planning Grant:

The ECRDC has begun the implementation of its 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) designed to guide the economic growth of the area. The CEDS is required in order to qualify for Economic Development Administration (EDA) Planning Grant Assistance under its public works, economic adjustment, and most planning programs; and is a prerequisite for designation by EDA as an economic development district (EDD). Multiple surveys were sent out to local government and community leaders for completion on projects in process, and future infrastructure, housing, and economic development needs that may require EDA assistance. An EDA planning grant extension for additional funding is currently under review by the EDA.

Job Opportunity Building Zones (JOBZ) Awards:

The ECRDC is the JOBZ Administrator for Region 7E. To date, JOBZ awards have been completed for Advanced Design & Systems of Pine City, DAKA Corporation of Pine City, Andersen Windows of North Branch, Polaris Inc. of Wyoming, and Creative Marketing Concepts of Mora. A JOBZ Business Subsidy Agreement was also signed on June 13, 2006 between Lake Superior Laundry and the City of Pine City. Lake Superior Laundry broke ground for the new facility in August, 2006 and they plan to be in operation by December, 2006.

The ECRDC has successfully completed a land modification proposal with the city of Cambridge on transferring the JOBZ designation to a more suitable parcel of land.

All told, approximately, 50 % of the 1,486 acres zoned JOBZ has been awarded. Of the six before mentioned JOBZ businesses, three were relocations, 2 were expansions and one new business was created.

According to State records projections for December 31, 2006, JOBZ will have created 310 jobs and retained 100 more in Region 7E. These six businesses will have invested nearly \$38,000,000 in these facilities, and have an annual payroll of over \$16.7 million dollars.

And in effort to keep the ball rolling, the local JOBZ Administrators hold quarterly meetings facilitated by ECRDC in an effort to keep abreast of the latest trends, opportunities and rules of JOBZ, discuss future JOBZ promotion and marketing opportunities as well as collaborate with their peers and learn new best practices and policies.

Northern Technology Initiative (NTI) Collaboration:

The ECRDC continues its economic development partnership with NTI on attracting high technology firms to Region 7E. Projects this past year have included the continued expansion of the Regional Angel Investment Network (RAIN) to provide equity investment capital for companies seeking to locate or expand to East Central Minnesota; establishing a regional marketing brand; development of a regional website; and implementing a cluster development and supply chain marketing strategy using the NAICS (North American Industrial Coding) System database.

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF):

The RLF Committee was presented with one loan application, which was granted, in 2005 – 2006; Wild River Animal Hospital of Pine City (\$50,000). A new RLF marketing campaign was implemented in June, 2006 with much success. Two loan applications were received in short order and both were approved at the August 4, 2005 RLF Meeting: Lake Superior Laundry (\$75,000), and Minnesota Organic Merchandise Store (\$25,000). As of 8/10/2006 there is approximately \$ 25,000 available to lend in the Revolving Loan Fund.

Revolving Loan Fund Committee:

Isanti County

Dennis Cunningham
Bruce Montgomery

Kanabec County

Michael Weinand
Jerry Nelson

Mille Lacs County

Robert Hoeffert
Carol Veurink

Chisago County

John Jackson
James Vrchota

Pine County

Tom Lambrecht
Paul Troskey

At Large

Kim Johnson (Chair)



The RLF recently assisted with gap financing for the new Wild River Veterinarian Clinic In Pine City. The clinic is located at 140 Ever-

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Value Added Community Development Initiatives:

The ECRDC provided local assistance to various economic development groups and local government (township, city, and county).

Economic Development Partnerships—The ECRDC meets regularly with the following organizations: Cambridge Economic Development Alliance, Mora Area Chamber of Commerce (Econ. Dev. Committee), East Central Minnesota Workforce Partnership, Northern Technology Initiative, Manufacturers Alliance, City Administrators, Pine Economic Development Corporation, and Mille Lacs Community Development Corporation. Example of positive results gleaned from these meetings include: developing a regional brand, marketing initiatives and a regional website.

Community Planning—Comprehensive land use planning and zoning ordinance were developed for a number of local governments including Knife Lake Township, Pokegama Township, and the City of Ogilvie. Onsite assessment meetings with local governments are ongoing. Informational materials are sent out annually on planning and zoning services.

Workshops and Grant writing—The ECRDC attended a number of Grant Workshops in order to become a better technical resource to local units of government in Region 7E. These workshops attended include: Brownfield Grant, Small Cities Development Grant, and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR). A number of onsite meetings will be developed to educate cities on grant availability and eligibility.

City Administrator Meetings—The ECRDC organizes a City Administrator meeting every two months to discuss mutual key issues occurring in the Region 7E communities. Past topics include the use of community land trusts (to address affordable housing), JOBZ award program, bonding for infrastructure improvement, and housing development. The City Administrator meetings have evolved into a best practices approach to city economic development. Issues and speakers are selected that will provide insight that will assist local governments with solving key issues in zoning, planning, economic development, and housing.

Small Business Development Center—The ECRDC has signed a contract with the SBDC to provide assistance in business planning, marketing, loan analysis and eligibility to those considering starting a new business or improve an existing one. With this new SBDC office, the ECRDC is becoming a one stop shop for business / recruitment expansion; loan assessment and packaging; small business planning; and community strategic planning.

Regional Marketing Initiatives:

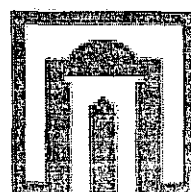
Enterprise Network System—The ECRDC, as part of the NTI Executive Committee, met a representative from DEED in order to discuss moving forward on the Enterprise Network System, and economic development tool using the NAICS industrial codes. Data is currently being collected from the Executive Committee on economic development priorities. The ECRDC in collaboration with the DEED, NTI, and the Initiative Foundation are working on creating a supply chain marketing and cluster development initiative to use the existing North American Industrial Coding System (NAICS) to develop clustered industries, assist local industries in finding suppliers, and drive local business to evolve its business practices. Data will be collected by the ECRDC on economic development priorities; these will assist in providing a benchmark for the strategic plan.

Business Assistance Directory—ECRDC's Office of Economic Development has updated their Business Assistance Directory. This 55 page directory provides information and links to resources for new, expanding, relocating or existing businesses. This director is available free of charge on the ECRDC website: www.ecrdc.org

Regional Website—The regional website is complete and located at the web address www.eastcentralmn.com and provides community / economic development data for the 12 JOBZ cities. It is constantly being updated and promoted. It features links to www.mnpro.com, the official DEED – State of MN JOBZ website, where in depth data is available on specific sites. Furthermore, the ECRDC will be incorporating the other 27 cities into the website, making this an economic development web portal for all Region 7E communities.

MINNESOTA SMALL BUSINESS

DEVELOPMENT CENTERS



*Shaping
The Future
Of Small Business*

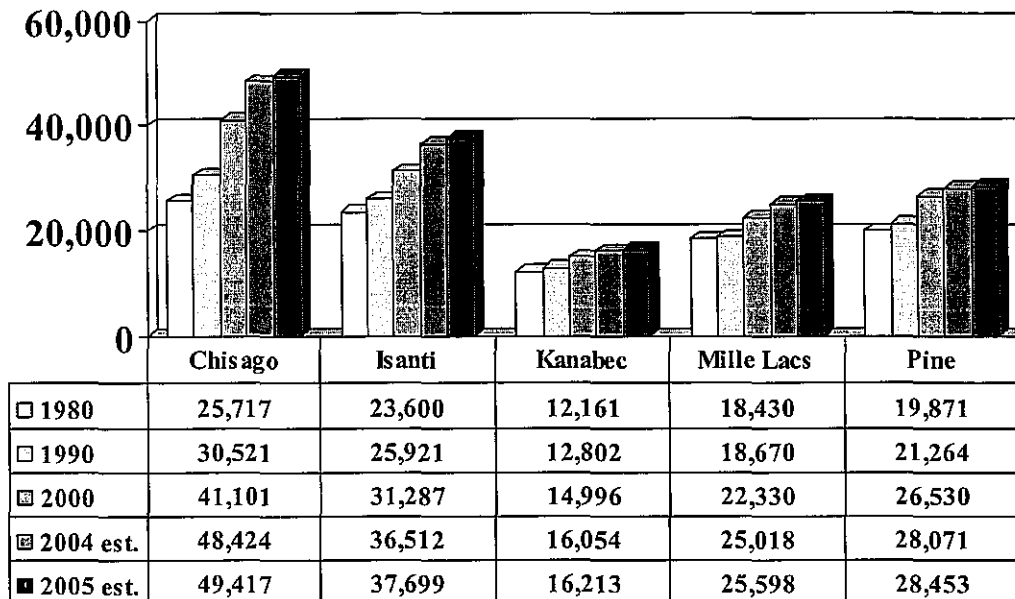
DEMOGRAPHIC SERVICES

Area	1980	1990	2000	2004 Est.	2005 Est.
Chisago County	25,717	30,521	41,101	48,424	49,417
Isanti County	23,600	25,921	31,287	36,512	37,699
Kanabec County	12,161	12,802	14,996	16,054	16,213
Mille Lacs County	18,430	18,670	22,330	25,018	25,598
Pine County	19,871	21,264	26,530	28,071	28,453
Region 7E	99,779	109,178	136,244	154,079	157,380
Minnesota	4,075,970	4,375,099	4,919,479	5,100,958	5,205,091

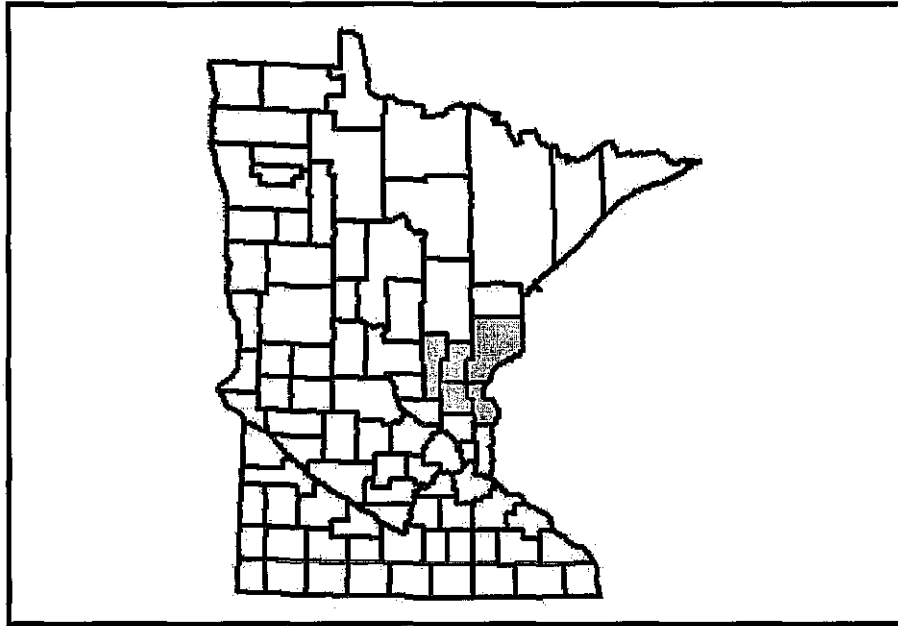
Population Projections			
Area	2000	2015	2030
Chisago County	41,101	56,520	69,540
Isanti County	31,287	37,930	42,930
Kanabec County	14,996	18,830	21,520
Mille Lacs County	22,330	28,270	34,160
Pine County	26,530	32,400	37,840
Region 7E	136,244	173,950	205,990
Minnesota	4,919,476	5,693,700	6,268,200

Labor Force Projections			
Area	2000	2015	2030
Chisago County	21,840	30,960	36,060
Isanti County	17,120	21,520	23,130
Kanabec County	7,657	9,620	10,950
Mille Lacs County	11,272	15,020	17,260
Pine County	12,766	15,700	17,210
Region 7E	70,655	92,820	104,610
Minnesota	2,691,709	3,225,100	3,385,2000

Population 1980—2005 est.



COUNTY PROJECTS



Serving the counties of:

**Chisago
Isanti
Kanabec
Mille Lacs
Pine**

CHISAGO COUNTY

TAC	Chisago County	TH 8 Task Force	
ECAC	Chisago County	Regional Arts Council President - Mary Minnick-Daniels	
ED	North Branch	JOBZ award to Andersen Windows	
ED	Wyoming	JOBZ award to Polaris Inc.	
ED	Chisago County	JOBZ Administrator meetings	
ED	Chisago County	JOBZ Regional Website - www.eastcentralmn.com	
ED	Chisago County	Northern Technology Initiative Committee	
ED	Chisago County	City Administrator's Meetings	
ED	Regional	In accordance with MN Statute 462.393 the RDC has initiated the 5 year review of its activities and is in the process of issuing a report assessing its performance. The report shall address whether the existence of the commission is in the public welfare/interest.	
TAC	Chisago County	Requested the Metro ATP to review the current target amount for Chisago County based on the new funding coming from the passage of SAFETEA-LU.	
ED	Regional	Presented at an East Central Workforce Partnership meeting.	
ED	Chisago County	Central MN Housing Partnership Board Member	
ED	Chisago County	Small Business Development Center Satellite Office	
ECAC	North Branch Area Community Education	ECAC Small Grant - Series of classic films	\$500
ECAC	Chisago County	Economic Impact Study conducted by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Legislative wrap -up held in Mora.	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Elder Depression and Suicide Prevention training.	
TAC	Lindstrom	Federal High Priority Project capacity & safety improvement recommended for Federal Funding.	\$5,760,000
TAC	Chisago City	Federal High Priority Project TH 8 Envir. Review, Forest Lake to Chisago City, recommended for Federal Funding	\$480,000
TAC	Chisago County	Federal High Priority Project CSAH 17 ramps/interchange at I-35 recommended for Federal Funding.	\$5,617,000
TAC	North Branch	Federal High Priority Project North Branch Bridge/TH 95-I35 recommended for Federal Funding.	\$7,121,000
TAC	North Branch	Federal High Priority Project design engineering for North Branch bridge recommended for Federal Funding.	\$750,000

CHISAGO COUNTY

TAC	Chisago County	Review of Section 5310 grant vehicles applications	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Senior Network Meeting	
ECAC	City of Lindstrom	ECAC Art Organization Grant - Harmony in the Parks Concert Series	\$2,000
TAC	Chisago County	Vehicle replacement recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2010	\$48,000
TAC	Chisago County	Vehicle replacement recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009	\$48,000
ECAC	Dawn Doering, Lindstrom	ECAC/McKnight Fellowship Grant to ultimately enlighten and entertain audiences using the stories, music, and biology of the nightingale, Nightengale Project on the Nay.	\$3,000
ECAC	Diane Wilson	ECAC Small Grant - Website creation to support publication of her book.	\$1,000
ECAC	Tracy Gulliver	ECAC Small Grant - Memoir mentorship	\$1,000
ECSRC	Rush City	Participated with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid in a nationwide effort to assist with enrollment and problem-solving for Medicare Part D	
ECSRC	North Branch	Participated in community expo. In North Branch	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Outreach presentations given at Chisago County Senior Center in North Branch, Fairview Chisago Lakes in Wyoming, Chisago Senior Expo in North Branch	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Participated in Chisago County Senior Expo	
ED	Chisago County	Job Opportunity Building Zones	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Resource Guide - A listing of services for older adults in East Central Minnesota.	
ECAC	Region 7E Artists	Work with individual artists to upload their artwork on to the mnartist.org website	
ECAC	Chisago County	Workshops and seminars were held to assist in grant writing for both organizations and artists.	
ECSRC	Chisago County	ECSRC Staff responded to 444 calls from seniors, their families, and caregivers	
ECSRC	Region 7E	Total clients receiving assistance had a total cost savings of \$4,344,526	
ECSRC	Region 7E	19 advocates in the region have donated time with a total value of \$34,867.04.	
ECAC	Region 7E	Funding to have Image Art Show held at ECRDC for FY2007	\$10,000
ECSRC	Chisago County	Medicare Part D presentations at Fairview Lakes Clinic, Fairview Hospital in Wyoming, Parmly Lakeview, Point Pleasant Heights, Meadows/Fairview in Wyoming, Rush City Senior Dining Site, and Lindstrom Senior Dining Site	
ECSRC	Chisago County	Senior Surf Days	

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ISANTI COUNTY

TAC	Cambridge-Isanti	Cambridge-Isanti Transportation Task Force	
ECAC	East Central Minnesota Chorale, Cambridge	ECAC Arts Organization Grant - Messiah concert at the Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Center	\$5,000
ECAC	Sweetgrass Farm, Dalbo	Dalbo Town Hall Community Dances	\$5,000
ECAC	Isanti County	Regional Arts Council President - Mary Minnick-Daniels	
ED	Cambridge	Land modification proposal for transfer of JOBZ land.	
ED	Isanti County	JOBZ Administrator meetings	
ED	Isanti County	JOBZ Regional Website - www.eastcentralmn.com	
ED	Isanti County	Northern Technology Initiative Committee	
ED	Regional	In accordance with MN Statute 462.393 the RDC has initiated the 5 year review of its activities and is in the process of issuing a report assessing its performance. The report shall address whether the existence of the commission is in the public welfare/interest.	
ED	Regional	Presented at an East Central Workforce Partnership meeting.	
ED	Isanti County	Central MN Housing Partnership Board Member	
ED	Isanti County	City Administrator's Meetings	
ED	Isanti County	Small Business Development Center Satellite Office	
ED	Advanced Chair Mats, Isanti	Revolving Loan for \$65,000	
ED	Superior Microsystems, Cambridge	Revolving Loan	
ED	Park Manufacturing, Cambridge	Revolving Loan	
ED	Isanti County	Northern Technology Initiative fiscal agent	
ECAC	Isanti County	Economic Impact Study conducted by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Legislative wrap -up held in Mora.	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Elder Depression and Suicide Prevention training.	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Medicare Part D presentations at Isanti County Family Services, Cambridge Community Expo., Senior Activity Center, Bridge Park Apartments, Riverwood Village in Cambridge, Elmhurst Commons, Mill Ridge Commons,	
TAC	Isanti County	Safe Cab Program	
TAC	Isanti County	Review of Section 5310 grant vehicles applications	
TAC	Isanti County	"Home Alive for the Holidays" campaign	

ISANTI COUNTY

ECSRC	Isanti County	Grant writing workshop	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Senior Network Meeting	
TAC	Isanti County	Reconstruct 1.1 miles from TH65 to CR\$% recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$492,000
TAC	Isanti County	Bike/walk trail from Cambridge to Isanti recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$149,600
TAC	Isanti County	Rail safety improvements recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$180,000
TAC	Isanti County	Vehicle replacement recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009	\$48,000
TAC	Isanti County	Vehicle replacement recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2010	\$49,600
ECAC	Katie Aiuppa, Isanti	ECAC/McKnight Scholarship for her music theory and composition lessons with mentor, Denise Osterman.	\$500
TAC	Isanti County	Liquor Provider Partnership	
TAC	Cambridge Isanti High School	Implemented traffic safety project with school.	
TAC	Isanti County	Approved CSAH 9 functional classification change as a major collector route	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Outreach presentations given at RiverHills in Cambridge, Elmhurst Commons in Braham	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Facilitated at Grandview Heritage Center in Cambridge - Elder Suicide Prevention	
ED	Isanti County	Job Opportunity Building Zones	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Resource Guide - A listing of services for older adults in East Central Minnesota.	
CD	Isanti County	Hazard Mitigation Planning for County	
ECAC	Region 7E Artists	Work with individual artists to upload their artwork on to the mnartist.org website	
ECAC	Isanti County	Workshops and seminars were held to assist in grant writing for both organizations and artists.	
ECSRC	Isanti County	ECSRC Staff responded to 580 calls from seniors, their families, and caregivers	
ECSRC	Region 7E	Total clients receiving assistance had a total cost savings of \$4,344,526	
ECSRC	Region 7E	19 advocates in the region have donated time with a total value of \$34,867.04.	
ECAC	Region 7E	Funding to have Image Art Show held at ECRDC for FY2007	\$10,000
ECSRC	Isanti County	Grant writing workshop.	
ECSRC	Isanti County	Senior Surf Days	
TAC	Isanti County	Toward Zero Deaths/Safe Communities Program	

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KANABEC COUNTY

ECAC	Kanabec County	Regional Arts Council President - Mary Minnick-Daniels	
ED	Mora	JOBZ award to Creative Marketing Concepts	
ED	Kanabec County	JOBZ Administrator meetings	
ED	Kanabec County	JOBZ Regional Website - www.eastcentralmn.com	
ED	Kanabec County	Northern Technology Initiative Committee	
ED	Regional	In accordance with MN Statute 462.393 the RDC has initiated the 5 year review of its activities and is in the process of issuing a report assessing its performance. The report shall address whether the existence of the commission is in the public welfare/interest.	
ED	City of Mora	Presented at the Mora Economic Development Conference.	
ED	Regional	Presented at an East Central Workforce Partnership meeting.	
ED	Kanabec County	Participate in the Creating a Value Added Communities	
ED	Kanabec County	Central MN Housing Partnership Board Member	
ED	Kanabec County	City Administrator's Meetings	
ED	Kanabec County	Small Business Development Center Satellite Office	
ED	Ogilvie	Shoreland zoning ordinance.	
ED	Kanabec County	Northern Technology Initiative fiscal agent	
ECAC	Latana Harris, Mora	Individual Artist Grant - Purchase a new kiln.	\$1,000
ECAC	Mora CAPP, Fairview Elementary School	ECAC Art In Our Schools Grant - Residency with writer Gary Harbo	\$1,000
ECAC	Mora CAPP, Trailview Elementary School	ECAC Art In Our Schools Grant - Musical residency with the Minnesota Percussion Trio.	\$1,000
ECAC	Kanabec County	Economic Impact Study conducted by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Legislative wrap -up held in Mora.	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Elder Depression and Suicide Prevention training.	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Medicare Part D presentations at Seven County Senior Federation, Kanabec Hospital. Kanabec County Commission on Aging, Mora Senior Dining Site	
TAC	Kanabec County	Review of Section 5310 grant vehicles applications	
ED	Mora	Presented to delegation from Sweden and Japan who were visiting during the Vasalopet	
ED	Kanabec County	Participated in the "Creating a Value-Added Community" planning effort.	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Senior Network Meetings	
TAC	Kanabec County	Grading, base, bituminous for 4.96 miles from TH 23 to CSAH 19 recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$318,000
TAC	Kanabec County	Reconstruct .98 miles from CSAH17 to CSAH11 recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$295,592

KANABEC COUNTY

ECSRC	Mora	Participated in Seven County Senior Federal annual convention	
TAC	Kanabec County	Approved CSAH 2 functional classification change as a major collector route	
TAC	Kanabec County	Approved CSAH11 functional classification change as a major collector route	
ECAC	Kanabec County Art Association	ECAC Small Grant to have "Watercolor Workshop with Nancy Scherer"	\$500
ECAC	Kanabec County Artists Tour	ECAC Small Grant for the Fall event entitled "Sticks and Stone"	\$500
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Creating a Value-Added Community participant	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Outreach presentation given at Kanabec Heritage Club in Mora	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Participated in Seven County Senior Federal convention	
ED	Kanabec County	Job Opportunity Building Zones	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Resource Guide - A listing of services for older adults in East Central Minnesota.	
CD	Kanabec County	Hazard Mitigation Planning for County	
ECAC	Region 7E Artists	Work with individual artists to upload their artwork on to the mnartist.org website	
ECAC	Kanabec County	Workshops and seminars were held to assist in grant writing for both organizations and artists.	
ECAC	Kanabec County Historical Society	ECAC Art Organization Grant	\$500
ECAC	Ogilvie Community Education	ECAC Art In Our Schools Grant	\$1,000
ECSRC	Kanabec County	ECSRC Staff responded to 1004 calls from seniors, their families, and caregivers	
ECSRC	Region 7E	Total clients receiving assistance had a total cost savings of \$4,344,526	
ECSRC	Region 7E	19 advocates in the region have donated time with a total value of \$34,867.04.	
ECAC	Region 7E	Funding to have Image Art Show held at ECRDC for FY2007	\$10,000
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Living Solutions Board Member. Living Solutions will focus on developing senior housing for residents with low and moderate incomes.	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Assisted in a county-wide effort to develop a community center located in Mora.	
CD	Knife Lake Township	Knife Lake Zoning Ordinance.	
ECSRC	Kanabec County	Senior Health Expo at Grace Lutheran Church.	
ECSRC	Mora	Prescription Clinic Project	

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MILLE LACS COUNTY

TAC	Onamia	Soo Line Trail Committee	
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Mille Lacs Public Transit meeting participation.	
ECAC	Mille Lacs County	Regional Arts Council President - Mary Minnick-Daniels	
ED	Mille Lacs County	JOBZ Administrator meetings	
ED	Mille Lacs County	JOBZ Regional Website - www.eastcentralmn.com	
ED	Regional	In accordance with MN Statute 462.393 the RDC has initiated the 5 year review of its activities and is in the process of issuing a report assessing its performance. The report shall address whether the existence of the commission is in the public welfare/interest.	
ED	Regional	Presented at an East Central Workforce Partnership meeting.	
ED	Mille Lacs County	Participate in the Creating a Value Added Communities	
ED	Mille Lacs County	Central MN Housing Partnership Board Member	
ED	Mille Lacs County	City Administrator's Meetings	
ED	Mille Lacs County	Small Business Development Center Satellite Office	
ED	Thunder Alley Speedway, Princeton	Revolving Loan	
ED	Mille Lacs	Northern Technology Initiative fiscal agent	
ECAC	Linda Buturian, Milaca	Individual Artist Grant - Research various aspects of a novel.	\$1,000
ECAC	Mille Lacs Area Community Education Consortium	IMAGE Show held at the Rolf Olsen Center.	\$5,000
ECAC	Mille Lacs County	Economic Impact Study conducted by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Legislative wrap -up held in Mora.	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Elder Depression and Suicide Prevention training.	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Medicare Part D presentations at Princeton Senior Dining, We "R" Able Support Group, Foster Grandparents, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Onamia Senior Center	
ED	Princeton	Land modification proposal of JOBZ land.	
TAC	Princeton	Federal High Priority Project TH95/TH169 safety improvements recommended for Federal Funding	\$1,440,000
TAC	Onamia	Federal High Priority Project Soo Line Trail Bridge recommended for Federal Funding.	\$878,000
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Mille Lacs Heartland Express program	
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Review of Section 5310 grant vehicles applications	
CD	Onamia	Affordable housing to area.	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Senior Surf Days	
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Toward Zero Deaths/Safe Communities Program	

MILLE LACS COUNTY

ED	Mille Lacs County	Participated in the "Creating a Value-Added Community" planning effort.	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Grant writing workshop	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Senior Network Meeting	
TAC	Mille Lacs Band	New road construction connecting a new TH169 alignment recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$409,609
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Reconstruct from CR 122 to CSAH13 recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$595,192
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Pedestrian bridge over TH169 at Onamia recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2009-2010	\$490,808
TAC	Mille Lacs County	Vehicle replacement recommended for Federal Project Submittal for 2010	\$49,600
ECAC	Noah Gahm, Milaca	ECAC/McKnight Scholarship to attend music camp at Bemidji State University	\$500
ECAC	Lily Nez, Onamia	ECAC/McKnight Scholarship for Summer Art Classes at the Paramount Visual Arts Center in St. Cloud	\$250
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Mille Lacs Human Right Commission member	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Participated in a volunteer fair	
TAC	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	Approved Aatage Drive functional classification change as a major collector route	
ECAC	Mark Allshouse, Princeton	ECAC-McKnight Individual Artist grant - Fused glass art workshop with Patty Gray.	\$1,000
ECAC	Rebecca Lloyd, Princeton	ECAC-McKnight Individual Artist grant to purchase a slab roller to assist in production of a new artwork series.	\$979
ECAC	Tiger Club Day-Care, Princeton	ECAC Small Grant for two field trips: one to Stages Theater to see "Seussical and another to visit the Old Log Theater and see "Wind in the Willow"	\$500
ECAC	Milaca Community Education	ECAC Art In Our Schools grant - Prairie Fire Children's Theatre residency and Performance of "Robin Hood"	\$1,000
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Creating a Value-Added Community participant	
ED	Princeton	Assisting with EDA Public Infrastructure Grant for developing utility infrastructure of a 40 acre parcel piece of land as a new industrial park.	
ED	Mille Lacs County	Job Opportunity Building Zones	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Resource Guide - A listing of services for older adults in East Central Minnesota.	
CD	Mille Lacs County	Hazard Mitigation Planning for County	
ECAC	Region 7E Artists	Work with individual artists to upload their artwork on to the mnartist.org website	
ECAC	Mille Lacs County	Workshops and seminars were held to assist in grant writing for both organizations and artists.	
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	ECSRC Staff responded to 460 calls from seniors, their families, and caregivers	
ECSRC	Region 7E	Total clients receiving assistance had a total cost savings of \$4,344,526	
ECSRC	Region 7E	19 advocates in the region have donated time with a total value of \$34,867.04.	
ECAC	Region 7E	Funding to have Image Art Show held at ECRDC for FY2007	\$10,000
ECSRC	Mille Lacs County	Grant writing workshop.	

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PINE COUNTY

ECAC	Pine County	Regional Arts Council President - Mary Minnick-Daniels	
ED	Pine City	JOBZ award to Advanced Design & Systems	
ED	Pine County	JOBZ Administrator meetings	
ED	Pine County	JOBZ Regional Website - www.eastcentralmn.com	
ED	Pine County	Northern Technology Initiative Committee	
ED	Regional	In accordance with MN Statute 462.393 the RDC has initiated the 5 year review of its activities and is in the process of issuing a report assessing its performance. The report shall address whether the existence of the commission is in the public welfare/interest.	
ED	Region 7E	Presented at an East Central Workforce Partnership meeting.	
ED	Pine County	Participate in the Creating a Value Added Communities	
ED	Pine County	Central MN Housing Partnership Board Member	
ED	Pine County	City Administrator's Meetings	
ED	Pine County	Small Business Development Center Satellite Office	
ED	Tower Solutions, Pine City	Revolving Loan	
ED	Creative Quilting, Pine City	Revolving Loan	
ED	Pine County	Northern Technology Initiative fiscal agent	
ECAC	Pine County	Economic Impact Study conducted by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts	
ECSRC	Pine County	Legislative wrap -up held in Mora.	
ECSRC	Pine County	Elder Depression and Suicide Prevention training.	
ECSRC	Pine County	Medicare Part D presentations at Sandstone Senior Center, Hinckley Senior Center	
TAC	Sandstone	Development of I-35 Interchange meetings	
ECSRC	Pine County	Senior Network Meeting	
ECAC	Audubon Center of the N Woods, Sandstone	ECAC Art Organization Grant - Project titled Four Seasons in the North Woods	\$5,000
TAC	Pine County	Review of Section 5310 grant vehicles applications	
ECAC	Anna Mandy, Sturgeon Lake	ECAC/McKnight Scholarship for saxophone lessons with William Taylor	\$250
ECSRC	Hinckley	Participated in employee health fair	

PINE COUNTY

ED	Wild River Veterinarian Clinic, Pine City	Revolving Loan	\$50,000
ECAC	Audubon Center of the North Woods	ECAC Small Grant to fund a Buffalo Gals Concert	\$475
ECAC	Willow River High School	ECAC Art In Our Schools grant - Field trip to the Northland Youth Music Program Choir and Band Camp.	\$1,000
ECSRC	Pine County	Creating a Value-Added Community participant	
ECSRC	Pine County	Outreach presentations given at Community Health Fair in Sandstone, Hinckley, and Community Health Fair in Sandstone	
ECSRC	Pine County	Participated in community health fair in Sandstone	
ECSRC	Hinckley	Outreach site in Hinckley at the Elderwood Assisted Living	
ED	Sandstone	Assisting with EDA application for implementing utility infrastructure to the 80 acre industrial park along I-35	
ED	Pine County	Job Opportunity Building Zones	
ECSRC	Pine County	Resource Guide - A listing of services for older adults in East Central Minnesota.	
ECAC	Region 7E Artists	Work with individual artists to upload their artwork on to the mnartist.org website	
ECAC	Pine County	Workshops and seminars were held to assist in grant writing for both organizations and artists.	
ECSRC	Pine County	ECSRC Staff responded to 1111 calls from seniors, their families, and caregivers	
ECSRC	Region 7E	Total clients receiving assistance had a total cost savings of \$4,344,526	
ECSRC	Region 7E	19 advocates in the region have donated time with a total value of \$34,867.04.	
ECAC	Region 7E	Funding to have Image Art Show held at ECRDC for FY2007	\$10,000
ECSRC	Pine County	Living Solutions Board Member. Living Solutions will focus on developing senior housing for residents with low and moderate incomes.	
ECSRC	Hinckley	Prescription Clinic Project	
ECSRC	Pine City	Prescription Clinic Project	
ED	Pine City	JOBZ award to DAKA Manufacturing	

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**East Central
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Commission**



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