



Anoka County

ADMINISTRATION

Communications

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Contact: Erik Thorson, Communications Director, 763-324-4612, or e-mail: Erik.Thorson@anokacountymn.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHIP Funding Available for Projects that Improve Community Health

Anoka County Public Health is once again offering an opportunity for neighborhoods and community organizations to submit project proposals for Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) funding designed to help improve the health of area residents.

The funding, which will be given in the form of SHIP Partner Awards of up to \$3,000 per project proposal, is designed to increase sustainable opportunities to improve community health through healthy eating, increased physical activity, mental well-being and reduced commercial tobacco use. Examples of the types of projects the funding could be used for include expanding access to fresh fruits and vegetables, organizing a bike share program, or offering tobacco-free/vaping-free resources and support.

Past projects have been successful at helping to improve health in Anoka County. Last year, Fridley's Springbrook Nature Center's "Garden Towers" allowed youth from area summer programs an opportunity to learn how to plant and tend to a garden that maximized spaces. They tasted a variety of herbs and vegetables, all while expanding their knowledge of where our food comes from. Adult participants and visitors were able to experience these gardens as well.

Applications for this funding will be accepted now through March 15, 2024. The application, instructions, and more information on the awards can be found at <https://www.anokacountymn.gov/communitypartnerawards>. Entities applying for the grants do not need to be registered organizations, but they should be consistent, sustainable groups within a neighborhood or community. Awards will be announced on April 1, 2024.

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Government Center ▲ 2100 3rd Avenue, Suite 700 ▲ Anoka, MN 55303-5024 ▲ www.anokacountymn.gov
Office: 763-324-4700 ▲ Fax: 763-324-5490

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SHIP Funding Available for Projects That Improve Community Health – Add 1

SHIP is a state-based program that promotes health and wellness in Anoka County by forming partnerships with organizations located throughout the county to expand opportunities for active living, healthy eating, well-being, and commercial tobacco-free living.

Further questions about the grants can be directed to SHIP@anokacountymn.gov or 763-324-4200.

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WB: bv