

HOUSING PROJECT GRANT SUMMARY

2021 STAR grant from MN Department of Natural Resources - Ecological and Water Resources

Amount: \$7,500

Title: Guidelines for Community Land Access and Use

Description: Crystal Bay Township is working to develop a tool that would allow community members and community organizations to use Township owned land for projects that enhance both nonhuman and human community resilience and meet community needs.

2022-2023 Laura J Musser Fund

Amount: \$5,000

Title: Rural Initiative Program - Affordable Housing Options for Finland MN

Description: In response to a critical shortage of affordable housing options, Crystal Bay Township in Lake County, MN is undertaking a project to develop inter-generational community housing to serve the local community. In conjunction with the community of Finland and the surrounding area, the Township project aims to co-create a housing development that fits the rural character of the area and provides affordable housing for seniors as well as local residents with low or fixed incomes.

2022-2023 University of MN - Rural Sustainable Development Partnership

Amount: \$6,750

Title: Resilient Communities - Affordable Housing for Finland MN

Description: Affordable housing has become a critical issue in the Finland area. Over the last five years housing costs have increased dramatically as people buy property for second homes, vacation rentals, and the increase in telecommuting. The lack of housing is straining our local economy that is heavily service based. Through this project, Crystal Bay Township will explore options and develop solutions to address the local affordable housing crisis.

2023-2024 University of MN - Rural Sustainable Development Partnership

Amount: \$16,800 for entire project (Township portion received through Friends of Finland)

Title: Deepening Impact - Affordable Housing for Finland, MN

Description: The Crystal Bay Township Housing Project aims to identify community housing needs and advance solutions to these needs that reflect the character of Finland and the surrounding area. Particular areas of need include rental housing, affordable single-family homes, and transitional housing for the aging population in the area. To date, the project has been focused on researching pathways towards addressing these needs and building relationships with individuals and organizations in the region that are working on addressing similar needs in other communities. The next phase of the project will be focused on building community support for different models of housing developments and identifying priority projects.

2023-2024 Minnesota Department of Human Resources - Minnesota Age-Friendly

Amount: \$50,425 for entire project (Township portion received through Friends of Finland)

Title: Age-Friendly Minnesota Community Grant - Aging in Place & Intergenerational Housing

Description: Our Age Friendly coalition will establish a collaborative network of resources to support aging in place. Also, in response to a critical shortage of housing for people in all stages of life, this grant will support the continuation of a project to plan and design a community-led housing development to provide affordable and accessible intergenerational housing for Finland in eastern Lake County.

2024-2025 University of MN - Rural Sustainable Development Partnership

Amount: \$5,000

Title: Empowering Small Minnesota Communities - Affordable Housing for Finland, MN

Description: The Crystal Bay Township Housing Project aims to identify community housing needs and advance solutions to these needs that reflect the character of Finland and the surrounding area. Particular areas of need include rental housing, affordable single-family homes, and transitional housing for the aging population in the area. This phase of the project will work with University resources to further develop identified solutions to housing needs in the area.

