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Contact: Erik Thorson, Communications Director, 763-324-4612, or e-mail:
Erik.Thorson@co.anoka.mn.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anoka County Offering Health-Focused Mini Grant Opportunities

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 awarded in the form of “mini grants” 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 wellbeing 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 mini grants have been successful at helping to improve health in Anoka County. A SHIP grant last year was provided to Rise, a nonprofit organization that supports people who have disabilities and other barriers, for the purchase of supplies and equipment designed to increase physical activity and healthy eating opportunities for 165 program participants at their Coon Rapids location. The grant was provided, in part, because people with disabilities are more likely to experience chronic health conditions than adults without disabilities. Rise staff have shared positive feedback about the new equipment and impact on program participants, and after being able to use the equipment staff thanked Anoka County for opening doors to people so they can have new experiences and new ways to stay healthy.

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

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Anoka County Offering Health-Focused Mini Grant Opportunities – Add 1

Mini grant applications will be accepted now through Feb. 28, 2022. The application, instructions, and more information on the grants can be found at <https://www.anokacounty.us/mini-grant>. Entities applying for the grants do not need to be registered organizations, but they should be consistent, sustainable groups within a neighborhood or community.

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, wellbeing, and commercial tobacco-free living.

Further questions about the grants can be directed to SHIP@co.anoka.mn.us or 763-324-4344.

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