

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lake City Community Education awarded a \$50,000 grant.

Lake City, MN - Lake City Community Education is excited to announce that it has been awarded a generous grant of \$50,000 from The Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation through the Otto Bremer Trust and its Community Responsive Fund. This funding will significantly enhance educational opportunities for residents of the Lake City area with a special focus on supporting social-emotional learning (SEL) for young learners.

The grant will be allocated to several key initiatives, including:

- **Funding for Early Education Teacher:** Hiring a dedicated Early Education Teacher to implement and oversee new SEL programs and provide high-quality instruction for young children.
- **Administrative Costs:** Covering administrative expenses to ensure the smooth operation and management of expanded educational offerings and programs.
- **Purchasing SEL Curriculum:** Acquiring a comprehensive social-emotional learning curriculum designed to help young children develop essential emotional intelligence, resilience, and interpersonal skills.

This grant supports the following key goals for Lake City Preschool and Early Childhood Programs:

- **Building 1:1 Relationships:** Establishing one-on-one connections with students to provide personalized support and focus on skill-based development.
- **Providing Targeted Support:** Offering individualized support tailored to each student's needs, with a focus on skill-based development and academic growth.
- **Conducting Small Group Support:** Organizing small group, age-appropriate social-emotional support sessions to address the specific needs of students and promote emotional resilience.
- **Meeting Vulnerable Students' Needs:** Ensuring that the needs of vulnerable students are met through tailored support and resources, aiming for long-term positive change and improvement in their quality of life.
- **Enhancing Parent Communication:** Communicating with parents about student care plans, and providing resources to facilitate effective parent engagement and support.

"We are thrilled to have received this grant to support our plans for a social-emotional support coach," says Amanda Kvasnicka, Community Education Director. "Mary Schumacher, with her extensive knowledge and experience, will be instrumental in assisting students with their social-emotional needs and supporting families in their child's education. While we will continue to foster academics, the emphasis on early social-emotional development is a vital aspect of this grant."

Research underscores the importance of developing emotional intelligence and resilience from a young age, as these skills are foundational for positive relationships and overall well-being. Lake City Community Education is dedicated to integrating these essential skills into its curriculum and involving the broader community to support children's growth.

For more information about Lake City Community Education and its initiatives, please contact Amanda Kvasnicka at 651-345-7170 or email akvasnicka@lake-city.k12.mn.us.

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