

Greater Minnesota Children's Museum Coalition

Visit our members!

Bloomington



Brainerd



Breckenridge



Duluth



Fergus Falls



Grand Rapids



Hutchinson



Mankato



St. Cloud



Willmar



Serving **all of Minnesota's children** & their caring adults:

Greater Minnesota Children's Museum coalition members will serve 500,000 guests annually, capturing visitors from nearly all of Minnesota's 87 counties. Many of Minnesota's children and families do not have another opportunity to experience a children's museum, or other quality space for informal learning through play, beyond our respective organizations.

Help us **continue** to provide education and exploration:

- *Extend already existing MDE annual \$50K base funding to each children's museums across the state.*
- *Provide equitable Legacy funding with \$150K directly to each children's museum.*
- *Invest \$31M in our children's museums across MN.*

Why?

These investments towards children's museums across Minnesota will have an economic return of 5x the investment through direct, indirect, and induced spending and job creation. As well as:

- *Maximize the impact children's museums have on early childhood development*
- *Improve social cohesion by strengthening the bonds between families and communities*
- *Increase cross-cultural competency, social emotional development, and mental health outcomes*
- *Bridge the equity gap in funding children's museums in Greater Minnesota*
- *Strengthen economic development across Greater Minnesota by increasing liveability and driving tourism*

How you can help spark curiosity and grow learning outcomes across the State

WonderTrek Children's Museum, Baxter-Brainerd

Request: \$4.7M to complete site improvements and infrastructure, 4 acres of nature play exhibits, environments, and outdoor recreation activities, a year-round outfitters exploration studio, and final design of a new 27,000 square foot museum building.

The Works Museum, Bloomington

Request: \$1.2M to fabricate and install new exhibits, furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the newly renovated gallery and workshop spaces.

Children's Discovery Center, Breckenridge

Request: \$2.5M request for design and renovation of the 15,000 sqft. museum facility. This includes exhibit development and fabrication with a focus on play, STEM, and regional industry and culture.

Duluth Children's Museum, Duluth

Request: \$1.3M to construct, furnish, and equip an expansion of the current Duluth Children's Museum.

Otter Cove Children's Museum, Fergus Falls

Request: \$3M for acquisition (building), pre-design, design, project management, construction.

Judy Garland & Children's Discovery Museum, Grand Rapids

Request: \$1.3M to pre-design, design, construct and rehabilitate existing museum space including outdoor and indoor expansion, equipment, and furnishings.

Wheel and Cog Children's Museum, Hutchinson

Request: \$350K for equity to support the rural communities we serve. This will allow for increased safety with a new front entrance, updated exhibits, new Outdoor Explorers and Mindful Wellness exhibits, and expanded community outreach.

Children's Museum of Southern MN, Mankato

Request: \$10M to pre-design, design, construct, furnish and equip two new buildings. Renovation of one section of existing exhibit space, as well as construction for an outdoor nature play space.

Great River Children's Museum, St. Cloud

Request: \$7M to design, construct, equip and furnish a 25,000 sqft. facility & outdoor exhibit space.

The Village Children's Museum, Willmar

Request: \$2.5M request for building acquisition, pre-design, design and renovation of interior and exterior of building. This includes exhibit creation and construction with a focus on adding spaces to address community needs.

