

Super Bowl Host Committee Supports Active Play

Grant Funds Imagination Playgrounds for Moorhead Schools

Thanks to the Minnesota Super Bowl Host Committee, students at all of Moorhead's elementary schools now have another way to stay active—and get creative! As part of the 52 Weeks of Giving campaign leading up to Super Bowl 52 in Minneapolis, the Super Bowl Legacy Fund worked with the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) to identify opportunities to fund projects that would support health and wellness for children, ultimately funding one project each week. SHIP was chosen for this role because of the important role the partnership plays for health and wellness in communities across the state. Three communities in PartnerSHIP 4 Health (PS4H)'s service area received grants: Moorhead, Detroit Lakes, and Fergus Falls. All told, the Super Bowl Legacy Fund distributed over \$5.5 million to communities across the state.



Grant awarded at Probstfield Elementary

In Moorhead, a grant of \$38,000 allowed the school district to purchase an Imagination Playground for each elementary school. The Imagination Playground is a set of large foam building blocks that come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Holes in each block allow students to combine them in hundreds of different ways. The district chose the sets to give students more options for active and creative play, especially when bad weather keeps them inside. “We want to do things with kids that aren’t as structured, and we want them to solve problems through collaboration,” said Assistant Superintendent Missy Eidsness. She also expressed gratitude for PS4H’s involvement in providing suggestions for how the funds

should be spent to have the greatest impact. “They (PS4H) brought some great ideas to the table for us to think differently.”

On March 14, 2017, the Super Bowl Host Committee also held a breakfast event for students at Probstfield Elementary to announce the awards and give students a first look at the new Imagination Playgrounds. In addition to Moorhead Mayor Del Rae Williams, multiple City Council and School Board members were there to celebrate.

Red River Area Learning Center Receives Dairy Council Grant

Thanks to an additional grant from the Minnesota Dairy Council, Red River Area Learning Center (ALC) in Moorhead also got to share in the excitement. The facility does not have its own kitchen, and food is usually prepared at another location. With \$10,000 in funding, the Center was able to purchase coolers and other equipment to make fresh, healthier breakfast items like fruit and yogurt available on-site. This will make a huge improvement in the daily lives of these students. For students at the ALC and in Moorhead’s elementary schools, the legacy of the Super Bowl will be one of giving, better breakfast, and new ways to stay active!

To learn more about the Minnesota Super Bowl Host Committee Legacy Fund, visit <https://www.mnsuperbowl.com/about/legacy-fund>

To learn more about PartnerSHIP 4 Health, visit <http://partnership4health.org>

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