

Community Education is Here For You



In life, our needs ebb and flow. Sometimes there's rhyme and reason to our circumstances, sometimes there is not. But when life allows us to develop a skill; when the only thing missing is additional training; when you're new in town and need familiarity; **we're here for you.**

Community Education is here to create opportunities of **impact, partnership and belonging** that connect our community members more closely to the heart of life.

2024 MCEA Legislative Priorities

1 **Expand the School Age Care Levy** to include three and four year old programming. This change would provide out of school childcare support for families with children from Early Childhood through Grade 6 and specifically would cover the **additional costs needed to serve three and four year old children with disabilities or who are experiencing temporary family or related problems** who participate in the school-age care program.

2 **Appropriately fund Early Childhood Preschool Programming** to meet the diverse needs of Minnesota families and the delivery costs of a district's defined model.

3 **Establish an ongoing funding stream for unemployment insurance.**

4 **Clarify the Adults with Disabilities statute** to align with other existing Community Education funding approval and reporting processes.

Community Education is...

a statewide initiative reaching every community in Minnesota through local schools and school districts. For more than 50 years, local community education programs have partnered with communities across the state to address local community needs. We create impactful programming for ALL participants to feel a sense of belonging in their community. We ensure access to quality opportunities and resources that are inclusive of the needs of ALL residents in order to eliminate opportunity gaps, positively impact communities, and encourage them to grow as individuals. **Additional investments are needed to continue to serve learners of all ages.**

Through impact, partnership and belonging, Community Education tells the stories of lifelong learning and connection throughout Minnesota.



IMPACT

Being there during new phases of life.

30 years ago, a young mom who was new to Red Wing joined the district's early childhood classes offered through Community Education to meet other new parents, learn parenting skills, and to find friends for her daughter. They continued to participate in many community education classes over the years, and to this day, she is still friends with many of the parents she met in that first class. Several of them even started a Bunco club and are still playing today!



PARTNERSHIP

Bridging the educational gap.

Shakopee Community Education has partnered with Mi CASA, which works to bridge educational gaps facing the local Latino population. This unique summer program is available to children and their families at little or no cost, providing arts, STEM and physical education programming as well as amazing connections among participants.



BELONGING

Providing social events when they are needed most.

Community Education provides opportunities for all age groups to connect. One couple was thrilled to find Rockford Community Education's "Sweet and Salty Bingo." After enduring many weeks of isolation, they were so grateful to have found a safe, welcoming and social environment, especially one that provided sweet and salty snacks, beverages and Bingo prizes!



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