



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

30239 128<sup>th</sup> Street, Princeton MN 55371

## **WE WILL PROVIDE SUPPER FOR YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH!**

*Residents Invited to a Meal and Visioning Session on June 29th, 2010.*

Local volunteer leaders and the Initiative Foundation are inviting Baldwin Township residents to a complimentary meal and an informal sharing of ideas on June 29th, 2010 at 6:00PM to learn how they can help envision, plan and build a brighter future for Baldwin Township.

Baldwin Township is one of four communities selected to receive a \$10,000 grant and one year of leadership team training as part of the foundation's Healthy Communities Partnership (HCP) program. Since 1999, HCP has helped more than 80 central Minnesota communities combine local assets, talents and ideas to create a shared community vision and plan for the future.

According to Initiative Foundation Program Manager for Community Development, Dan Frank, everyone is encouraged to get involved.

"HCP allows people to actively participate in decision-making and help set community priorities," Frank says. "This is a very rare opportunity to get together and talk about everything that's great about living in Baldwin Township and everything it can become in the future, and then join forces with your friends and neighbors to make it happen."

The Initiative Foundation has begun training the Baldwin Township volunteer leadership team in March 2010. The team is comprised of twenty-five residents who represent the area's social, economic and professional diversity. Frank said that forming the team with diverse ages, occupations and backgrounds is critical to ensuring that all views are represented.

Leaders were trained to help assist with community discussions and a public "visioning session," where everyone answers the same question: "If you could imagine the best possible future for this community, what would it look like?" When citizens arrive at a collective answer, HCP leaders turn that vision into a simple plan of action, which can earn additional foundation support.

"There is a place in this for everyone," Frank added. "You can give a little time or a whole bunch of time. You can offer financial support. You can even offer friendly support and optimism. We'll take everyone's involvement we can get, because we need all of it to make good things happen."

Frank will be joined at the meeting by other Initiative Foundation staff. They will provide a program overview, share examples of community successes and answer questions. Information will also be shared about the Minnesota Public Radio Civic Engagement Pilot program that will be taking place in the community at the same time as the HCP process.

To ensure an adequate amount of space and meals, all Baldwin residents will be receiving a special invitation by mail. Please RSVP prior to June 24<sup>th</sup>. This event is limited to Baldwin Township residents. The Baldwin Township visioning meeting is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM at the First Love Fellow Church (12564 303<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Princeton, MN 55371). A complimentary meal will be provided. For additional information please contact the town clerk at (763) 389-8931 or [baldwintwp2@qvestoffice.net](mailto:baldwintwp2@qvestoffice.net).