



## **MAKE MORE HAPPEN GRANT EXAMPLES: MORE FUNDING, MORE TIME, MORE PEOPLE, MORE RESULTS**

**IdeaFest** - IdeaFest was a one-day event to foster entrepreneurship and raise awareness of business development resources in the Danville region. IdeaFest included the following components: a startup skills workshop, an entrepreneurial resource fair, a business pitch competition, and a networking hour. Winners of the business pitch competition were awarded cash prizes and professional services to aid in the development of their winning business idea. Led by a group of Middle Border Fellows, IdeaFest brought together local businesses, universities, media and community members to show that the Dan River Region is open and ready for business. [www.ideafestdanville.com](http://www.ideafestdanville.com)

**The MILTON Project** – The Thomas Day House in partnership with PearlDamour Theater Company will present a performance of MILTON in Milton, NC based on stories of Milton residents to produce a play telling the story of their town. PearlDamour chose five towns with the same name in North Carolina, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Louisiana and Oregon to help define an American community. [www.skyovermilton.com](http://www.skyovermilton.com)

- In researching and preparing for the performance, PearlDamour got to know each town and the pressing issues and needs of the community, working to collaborate with them on how the performance can be a catalyst for conversation and action around issues such as tourism – especially tourism related to craft, visual arts, music and food – to help revitalize this town.
- Direct partners include: Thomas Day House; active citizens of Milton; Caswell County Historical Association; High Street Baptist Church; Milton Women's Club; Beautification Society of Milton; business owners of Milton; and the Milton Town Board.

**Picture Danville** - A partnership between Dan River Partnership for Healthy Community, Virginia Tech and the City of Danville Parks and Recreation's Youth Council gave a voice to Danville's youth and motivated social change through the use of photography and active dialogue. In Spring 2014, participating high school students developed and displayed a group photography project that explores

issues of diversity and community in Danville. The project culminated with a public photo exhibit in April for both community leaders and members. The exhibit is mobile and continues to be displayed throughout the city of Danville for the duration of 2014.

For a full explanation of the Make More Happen guidelines and information about other grant opportunities with DRF, please visit [www.drfonline.org](http://www.drfonline.org) or call 434-799-2176 and ask for Starling McKenzie.