



# J&DI Tool Shed

*one seed at a time*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S STITCH

### The In-Between Times



If you're a gardener, you know this can be a difficult time of year. A time when we eagerly await the moment to dig into the cool soil, tuck tiny seeds into their indents, and tend to the quiet magic that unfolds over the hot summer days. How do we hold ourselves back from planting too soon and risk losing those fresh sprouts to a late spring frost?



So, I plan. I sketch garden layouts. I mark seed catalog pages with sticky notes. I walk the aisles of greenhouses, wishing for more yard—and more money—to buy one of everything. I even play Stardew Valley and tend my virtual garden until it's finally time to plant for real.



Creating connections in our communities is much like a gardener's springtime anticipation. We're eager to dig in, to get things growing! Yet, just like in gardening, relationships need patience, tending, and thoughtful planning, so we don't rush ahead and get "frosted out." We keep practicing, trying new ways of cultivating the communities and connections we want to nurture. And soon enough, those seeds begin to sprout, roots start to take hold, and we find ourselves connected—both to each other and to this rural place we call home.





## Rural Assembly Everywhere

Rural leaders, community members, advocates, and allies will gather to imagine new ways of expanding opportunity, sharing resources, and building a more, connected thriving rural America.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Women's Circle

WITH WILDFLOWER WISDOM

The Sowing Room is partnering with Wildflower Wisdom for June's Third Space Thursday. Details below!

[RSVP HERE](#)



## Share your voice!

CREATIVE THINKERS, ARTISTS  
AND CULTURE BEARERS

Share your thoughts around topics such as housing, transportation, quality of life and MORE! Yes, we will be using our hands.

[RSVP](#)



## Sew and Sow Tour

SEEKING PLACES AND SPACES OF INCLUSION

The Sowing Room continues to make its way through the five-county region. This second leg of the journey includes green beer and familiar faces.

[READ TRAVEL BLOG HERE](#)

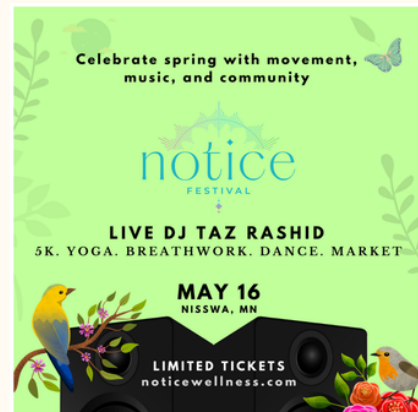
# In Community

## OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

The Sowing Room has been out in community- not only with the Sew and Sow Tour and Third Space Thursdays. We attended two amazing local events in March and April, with another event coming up in May. March and April brought us to Central Lakes College for two different events- The first was Career Exploration Day, with nearly 2000 students from nearby high schools engaging in hand-on activities to learn more about area career fields. We asked students about "third spaces", learning that sports and after school activities are where they go outside of school and home, where they can be their authentic selves.

Our second tabling event at CLC was for the WeARE Health Fair, bringing health resources to the students and community. We were there talking about the importance of social health and social connections.

And finally, The Sowing Room will be tabling at the upcoming Notice Wellness Fair in Nisswa on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Fingers crossed on having a sunny day and if you are in the area, stop by!!



Your input is **GOOD** for the region!

- Take our brief survey.
- Be entered to win a **\$200 CASH GIFT CARD**. That's **GOOD** for you!

Plus, enter to win a **\$200 CASH GIFT CARD**



## June Pride Celebration

### PICNIC AND PLANNING

Queerly Social Pride Month gathering that will also serve as the kickoff for the September Pride in the Park action.

[RSVP](#)



## Third Space Thursday

### SKILL SHARE

Share a skill. Learn a skill.  
May 21st 6:30-8pm  
Lil Fish Studios, Franklin Arts

[RSVP](#)

# Donations are always welcome— big or small

*Every dollar helps to bring inclusive places  
and spaces to rural communities*

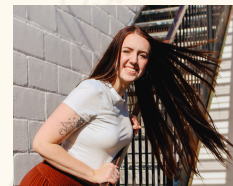
- \*General Operating Fund
- \*Third Space Thursdays
- \*Sew and Sow Regional Tour 2026
- \*Pride in the Park 2026
- \*Care Team



*Please indicate which project/program you would like your donation to impact.*

## Fieldwork Intern Farwell!

**BAYLIE BEMENT, CLC HUMAN SERVICES STUDENT**



Time flies and as Baylie's fieldwork experience comes to a close, we asked Baylie to share a bit about her time engaging in the work of The Sowing Room. Here is what she had to say. *"My experience in interning with The Sowing Room has been phenomenal! One of the biggest highlights for me was Third Space Thursdays. There's something special about walking into space and instantly feeling like you belong. It has been amazing to be apart and enter a space to meet new people, explore my creativity, or just take a break from the everyday routine. I have noticed that sometimes, all it takes is one evening and one welcoming space to remind you that you belong. As my internship with The Sowing Room comes to an end, my involvement with The Sowing Room will continue, I look forward to future events that I can show up and be myself at!"*

**Thanks Baylie for working to create places and spaces of inclusion. Good Luck to you!!**

## Stay connected

**WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!!**

What seeds need planting in your community?

**DROP US A LINE!**

@thesowingroommn | [director@sowingroom.org](mailto:director@sowingroom.org)

**[WWW.SOWINGROOM.ORG/CALENDAROFEVENTS](http://WWW.SOWINGROOM.ORG/CALENDAROFEVENTS)**