

Contact Information:

Steele County Free Fair
PO Box 650 Owatonna, MN 55060
steelecountyfreefair@scff.org
507-451-5305



Release Date:

04/28/2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way Named Charity Partner for “Spring into Summer”

Owatonna, Minnesota — The Steele County Free Fair is proud to announce United Way of Steele County as the official charity partner for the inaugural Spring into Summer festival, taking place May 29–30, 2026, on the fairgrounds in Owatonna.

This new early-summer event builds on the legacy of the former *Smokin’ in Steele* while expanding into a broader community celebration. Partnering with United Way reinforces that mission of giving back.

United Way of Steele County has a long-standing relationship with the Steele County Free Fair, collaborating on initiatives that strengthen the local community and support those in need. Their involvement in Spring Into Summer continues that tradition, creating new opportunities to connect, give, and make a meaningful impact.

“United Way has been an incredible partner over the years, and we’re excited to deepen that relationship through Spring into Summer,” said fair manager Scott Kozelka. “Their work reaches far beyond a single organization. They help uplift dozens of nonprofits across our region.”

Through strategic grantmaking and community investment, United Way of Steele County supports a wide network of local nonprofit organizations focused on Healthy Community, Youth Opportunity, Financial Security, and Community Resiliency. A portion of funds raised and awareness generated during Spring into Summer will help further those efforts, amplifying the impact across Steele County and beyond.

Spring Into Summer will feature a full slate of activities for all ages, including a backyard BBQ competition, live music, a softball tournament, food trucks, a flea market, and more making it both a kickoff to summer and a celebration of community spirit.

For more information about Spring into Summer and how to get involved, visit www.scff.org/spring-into-summer.

###

“A Timeless Tradition: The 2026 Edition” – August 18-23, 2026

Steelecountyfreefair@scff.org | scff.org | 507-451-5305 | Steele County Agricultural Society