

Program Agenda

	Wednesday, May 18, 2022 Hyatt Regency Coralville Hotel & Conference Center
7:00 a.m.	
7:30 a.m.	Registration / Breakfast (Outside Ballroom) Exhibits Open
8:00 a.m.	Welcome & Morning Keynote (Coral Grand Ballroom)
0.00 a.m.	Opening & Welcome
	Mayor of Coralville, Meghann Foster
	Iowa Utility Association Chair: Shirley Welte, Vice President, Black Hills Energy
	Morning Keynote "ESG and Climate Change: Growth Opportunities" Andrew Busch, Economist
9:30 a.m.	Breakout Workshops - Block #1
Workforce & I	Leadership Development Track
Workshop 1	Discover Your Significance Assessment (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 3) Erick Rheam, President, Team Rheam Productions
Workshop 2	Iowa Economic Development Authority Update (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 5) Staci Hupp Ballard, Chief Strategic Communications Officer Beth Balzer, Team Leader, Business Development Peggy Kerr, Team Leader, International Trade Jill Lippincott, Team Leader, Innovation
Workshop 3	Reimagining Our Workforce: Creative Solutions to Workforce Issues (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 4) Dan Clark, Director, Iowa Prison Industries Joy Greer, CIRCA Program Manager, United Way of Central Iowa
Community D	Development Track
Workshop 1	Making a Deal with Public and Private Funding (Wallace Room) Nathan Overberg, Attorney, Ahlers & Cooney, P.C. Dustin Miller, Attorney, Nyemaster Goode, P.C.
Workshop 2	Make Your Community Story a Must Read – Get the Support, Buy-In Needed to Thrive (Slater Room) Sarah Thompson, Owner, Rural Revitalization LLC Bethany Wilcoxon, Senior Advisor, McClure Engineering
Workshop 3	Win the Childcare Battle (Wood Room) Dawn Oliver, President/CEO, Iowa Women's Foundation Elizabeth Stanek, Executive Director, Linking Families and Communities Josh Laraby, Executive Director, Fairfield Economic Development Association
Sustainable D	evelopment Track
Workshop 1	The Future is Now – Industry 4.0 and Automation (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 2) Chris Hill, Technology Program Director, Iowa State University CIRAS Matt Joens, Customer Success Lead, MākuSafe®
Workshop 2	Renewable Energy Benefits Everyone – Get in the Know!(Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 1)Brian Brown, Landowner & Farm Manager in Iowa CountyMarvin Sims, Director of Facilities & Utilities/HSE, Procter & GambleJohn Gahring, Supervisor, Iowa CountyKiana Johnson, Executive Director, O'Brien County Economic DevelopmentCorporationModerator – Kathryn Kunert, Vice President of Economic Connections andIntegration, MidAmerican Energy
Workshop 3	Embrace the Electric Vehicles Movement (Clark Room) Jamie Sorenson, Director of Advanced Technology, Winnebago Industries, Inc. Stuart Anderson, Director of Transportation Development, Iowa Department of Transportation Michelle Yun, Senior Manager of Strategy and Electrification, Alliant Energy Moderator – Scott Drzycimski, Director of Public Affairs, ITC Midwest

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10:30 a.m. Break / Networking / Exhibits		
10:45 a.m. Breakout Workshops - Block #2 Workforce & Leadership Development Track		
Workshop 2	Iowa Economic Development Authority Update (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 5) Staci Hupp Ballard, Chief Strategic Communications Officer Beth Balzer, Team Leader, Business Development Peggy Kerr, Team Leader, International Trade Jill Lippincott, Team Leader, Innovation	
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11:45 a.m.	Conference Luncheon (Coral Grand Ballroom)	
	Special Message from the Governor Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds	
	State of Iowa Leaders Panel Debi Durham, Executive Director, Iowa Economic Development Authority & Iowa Finance Authority Beth Townsend, Director, Iowa Workforce Development Dr. Ann Lebo, Director, Iowa Department of Education Moderator – Kathryn Kunert, Vice President of Economic Connections & Integration, MidAmerican Energy	

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1:00 p.m. Breakout Workshops - Block #3

Workforce & Leadership Development Track

- Workshop 1Discover Your Significance Assessment (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 3)Erick Rheam, President, Team Rheam Productions
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Community Development Track

- Workshop 1Making a Deal with Public and Private Funding (Wallace Room)Nathan Overberg, Attorney, Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.Dustin Miller, Attorney, Nyemaster Goode, P.C.
- Workshop 2 Make Your Community Story a Must Read Get the Support, Buy-In Needed to Thrive (Slater Room)
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- Workshop 3 Win the Childcare Battle (Wood Room) Dawn Oliver, President/CEO, Iowa Women's Foundation Elizabeth Stanek, Executive Director, Linking Families and Communities Josh Laraby, Executive Director, Fairfield Economic Development Association

Sustainable Development Track

Workshop 1 The Future is Now – Industry 4.0 and Automation (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 2) Chris Hill, Technology Program Director, Iowa State University CIRAS Matt Joens, Customer Success Lead, MākuSafe®

 Workshop 2 Renewable Energy Benefits Everyone – Get in the Know! (Oakdale Junior Ballroom Salon 1)
 Brian Brown, Landowner & Farm Manager in Iowa County Marvin Sims, Director of Facilities & Utilities/HSE, Procter & Gamble John Gahring, Supervisor, Iowa County
 Kiana Johnson, Executive Director, O'Brien County Economic Development Corporation
 Moderator – Kathryn Kunert, Vice President of Economic Connections and Integration, MidAmerican Energy

Workshop 3 Embrace the Electric Vehicles Movement (Clark Room)

Jamie Sorenson, Director of Advanced Technology, Winnebago Industries, Inc. Stuart Anderson, Director of Transportation Development, Iowa Department of Transportation Michelle Yun, Senior Manager of Strategy and Electrification, Alliant Energy

Moderator – Scott Drzycimski, Director of Public Affairs, ITC Midwest

2:00 p.m. Break / Networking / Exhibits

2:15 p.m. Keynote and Closing Remarks (Coral Grand Ballroom) Keynote "Rising Above the Chaos" Erick Rheam, President, Team Rheam Productions

Closing Remarks

Chaz Allen, Executive Director, Iowa Utility Association

4:00 p.m. Adjourn

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Keynote Speakers



When **Meghann Foster** took office as Mayor on January 1, 2022, she became the first female mayor in Coralville's 148-year history. Foster has been a Coralville resident since 2001. She is the community engagement coordinator for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP) and teaches strategic communication and social media marketing at the University of Iowa's School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She holds a master's in Strategic Communication from Washington State University and a bachelor's from the University of Iowa. She has been an active parent volunteer at Coralville Central Elementary, Northwest Junior

High, and West High School, and is a contributor to the Iowa City Moms Blog. Her family includes her husband and five children. In her free time, she enjoys running on Coralville's trails, watching movies, and spending time with her family.



Shirley Welte is vice president of Black Hills Energy Iowa Gas. She has led both electric and natural gas utilities in Iowa and Wyoming. Welte enjoys and is committed to the local community and has served as a member of the Waubonsee Community College Foundation, Cheyenne LEADS and the Board of Directors of the Long's Peak Boy Scout Council. Currently, Welte serves as the Chair of the Iowa Utility Association and on the Board of Trees Forever. She is a native of Freeport, Illinois and holds a bachelor's in communications from Aurora University and a Master of Science degree in organizational management from Benedictine University.



Andrew Busch's unconventional path to finance, politics and the economy has taught him that the big picture is filled in by small details and requires unconventional thinking to see them. He was number six out of seven kids which taught him to scrap, shout and fight for the last piece of food at dinner. He brought this determination to his career and to his insights into the world. Before he went into finance, he painted street curbs, mowed lawns, worked construction, and ran his own painting company. All his career, he's been on the front lines of the economy and the markets. Andy traded currencies and wrote research on the markets

during the 1985 Plaza Accord; the 1998 Russian default; and to the 2008 global financial crisis. He's advised major mutual funds, hedge funds, US Treasury Secretaries and the White House. In 2017, he became the nation's first Chief Market Intelligence Officer at the CFTC. He provided economic and market briefings to the SEC, US Treasury, Federal Reserve Board, Federal Reserve of New York and the White House. He is an outside economic advisor to the White House during this time of economic uncertainty and challenges caused by the coronavirus. After a career of 35 plus years, he brings his perspective, insights and energy for fighting for the last piece of dinner to as many people and organizations as possible. Andy breaks down the economy, politics and technology to simplify the complexity and ensure that everyone can understand how they impact business and jobs. As a member of a large family and a husband/ father of his own large family, Andy knows the importance of seeing through difficult, chaotic times towards the opportunities the future holds.

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Governor Kim Reynolds is the 43rd governor of Iowa and has the distinction of being the first woman elected to the state's highest office. Her long-standing record of public service also includes serving Iowans as Lt. Governor, State Senator and Clarke County Treasurer. Reynolds' strong conservative values are reflected in her priorities for Iowa. From implementing the largest tax cut in state history, making record investments year-over-year in public schools, and enacting workforce policy initiatives that will keep Iowa's economy strong and make our state an employment destination, Reynolds is firmly committed to ensuring

lowa is the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

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Debi Durham is a longtime economic and community development professional who serves as executive director of the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) and Iowa Finance Authority (IFA). Prior to joining IEDA, Durham served as president of the Siouxland Chamber. Her several accolades include being recognized as one of the "Most Influential Business Leaders" in the 2019 Des Moines Business Record Book of Lists and receiving the Technology Association of Iowa's "Legislative Advocacy Leader" award in 2017. Durham was recognized by the Business Record as a "Woman of Influence" in 2016. Durham holds a B.S. in Business

Administration, Marketing and Management from Missouri Southern State University.



Beth Townsend serves as the director of Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and has general supervision over the various services IWD provides to Iowans. The Director prepares, administers, and controls the budget of the agency and its divisions along with Rod Roberts, Commissioner of the Division of Labor and Joseph S. Cortese, II, Commissioner of the Division of Workers' Compensation. Director Townsend has been in her current position since 2015 when she was first appointed by Governor Branstad and unanimously confirmed by the Iowa Senate on March 24, 2015. Director Townsend was reappointed by Governor Reynolds in

January 2019, and again confirmed by the Iowa Senate. Director Townsend previously served as the Director of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission. Director Townsend served in the Air Force Reserve and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 21 years of active and reserve duty.



Dr. Ann Lebo was appointed as director of the Iowa Department of Education in March of 2020. Lebo previously served as executive director of the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners, where she had been since 2016. She was previously a secondary principal in Grundy Center, an adjunct faculty member in education and leadership at Waldorf University and serves as Iowa's Chief Talent Officer for the Council of Chief State School Officers. Lebo was an athletic coach and English instructor at the secondary and postsecondary levels for 17 years and worked in the private sector for five years. Lebo also served on the statewide Teacher

Leadership and Compensation Task Force in 2012 and was appointed to the Governor's STEM Advisory Council in 2017. Dr. Lebo holds an Ed.D. and Ed.S. both in Educational Administration, a M.A. in English Language and Literature, a B.A. in English Education, and a B.A. in Speech Communication.



Kathryn Kunert is the vice president of economic connections and integration for MidAmerican Energy. She joined the government affairs department as a legislative grassroots coordinator in 1996. During her career, she has had responsibilities in the areas of government affairs, community relations, economic development and corporate communications. In her current role, Kunert oversees key accounts, business accounts, business and community development, franchises, sponsorships and donations, and other special projects. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa.



Erick Rheam is a professional public speaker and published author that has been speaking for over a decade. He entered the utility industry after leaving the United States Army in 2000 and spent nearly two years creating a key accounts program for Anderson Municipal Light and Power in Indiana before departing to Loveland Water and Power in Colorado. It was there that he grew his abilities to work with large commercial accounts and develop long term business relationships for municipal governments. While in Loveland, Erick created the customer relations division and served in that capacity for seven years before moving to

Automated Energy in 2009. While working at Automated, he began to discover his passion for speaking, and began to speak at conferences on the side. In 2019, he started his role as the director of student success for The Speaker Lab, a professional speaker training company before ultimately stepping down in 2021 to focus on his speaking business. When not working, Erick enjoys traveling, reading, writing, and dreaming with his wife and three beautiful children. His Labrador Retriever and Doberman Pinscher are his constant companions and inspiration to remain active and creative in life.

Workshop Speakers



Stuart Anderson graduated with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University in 1991 and has worked for the Iowa DOT since that time. Anderson is director of the Transportation Development Division which is responsible for multimodal transportation planning, programming, and project development activities.



Staci Hupp Ballard is a proud Iowan who has been telling the story of this great state for much of her professional life. Ballard was named chief strategic communications officer for the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) and Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) in April 2020. In this role, she leads a talented team of communications and marketing professionals working to attract businesses, talent and travelers to Iowa and to connect Iowans with affordable

financing for home and community. Ballard began her career as a journalist for newspapers in Dallas, Indianapolis and Des Moines. Prior to joining IEDA|IFA, Ballard was director of communications for the Iowa Department of Education. She is a graduate of Iowa State University.



Beth Balzer is the business development team leader for the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA). She joined the agency in 1993 as an existing industry marketing manager. In addition to focusing on the expansion and retention of Iowa's existing companies, she has responsibilities of overseeing the business recruitment efforts of the Sales/Project Management team. Prior to joining the IEDA, Balzer was employed by Ortho Diagnostics, a division of

Johnson & Johnson, as a sales representative. Previous to Ortho Diagnostics, she held sales and sales management positions for Hershey Chocolate, USA. Balzer received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, with an emphasis in marketing, from Iowa State University.



Brian Brown is a fourteen-year business broker. He owns farmland in Iowa County acquired by his great grandfather in 1890 and operated by three generations of his family. Brown also assists family members as farm property manager in Iowa and Benton Counties and holds an Iowa real estate brokers license. After earning an animal science degree from Iowa State University, Brown became an agricultural lender. After a twenty-five-year banking career, he

became a merger and acquisition services professional serving as a transaction intermediary to business owners discreetly sell their profitable, established enterprises. His favorite client industry is agricultural business while assisting all types of companies.



Dan Clark is the director of Iowa Prison Industries (IPI), a work training program for men and women incarcerated within Iowa's nine state prisons. Every day, more than 900 men and women in the IPI program learn to weld, learn to work as a team, learn to use the tools of lean manufacturing, and learn the skills that will help them obtain good paying jobs upon their release. IPI work training programs provide Iowa employers with a skilled and motivated workforce and

improve the success rate for reentering citizens. Prior to joining IPI, Dan spent 30 years in private industry. He holds an M.B.A. from the University of Buffalo and an M.S. from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. Dan and his spouse Kristin reside in West Des Moines, Iowa.



Scott Drzycimski is director of public affairs at ITC Midwest. For years, he has worked for Midwest utilities in media relations, marketing, economic development, community relations and large customer engagement. Prior to joining ITC Midwest, Drzycimski spent nearly 18 years with Alliant Energy. At ITC Midwest, Drzycimski works closely with the team to lead the development and execution of strategy to build equity and trust with stakeholders who

influence and determine policy outcomes for the operating company. A Cedar Rapids native, Drzycimski earned his bachelor's degree at Iowa State University and his MBA at the University of Northwestern – St. Paul. With involvement in many community organizations over the years, he is a member of the Cedar Rapids Community School District Foundation Board of Trustees and serves on the Salvation Army Advisory Board.

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John Gahring is the chairman of the Board of Supervisors in Iowa County. Gahring is at the end of his second term in office and is a recovering dairy farmer (although he's still farming). His wife Lynn and him have 3 children and five grandchildren. They are also independent drug testers for college athletes. Gahring ran for office after selling his milk cows because he has always loved politics and wanted to be part of the solution and a positive part of his community.



Joy Greer is the program manager for the CIRCA Program at United Way of Central Iowa – Central Iowa Works. CIRCA stands for Central Iowa Returning Citizens Achieve and is funded by a \$1.8 million grant from the Department of Labor. The CIRCA program provides occupational training to incarcerated individuals and case management and support for one year after release from incarceration.



Chris Hill has worked with manufacturing companies for 35 years. He has held a variety of manufacturing, purchasing, quality, engineering project and program management roles for both domestic and international projects. He spent his last seven years in industry, leading new product development programs for one of the world's largest appliance manufactures, with responsibility for design, manufacturing, purchasing, and quality. Hill has worked with companies from

around the world to resolve cost, timing, process, and quality issues. He utilized advanced engineering and manufacturing methods to reduce development cycles and improve manufacturing efficiencies. He holds numerous American Society for Quality (ASQ) certifications, a BSI Lead Auditor certification, and numerous domestic and foreign patents. Chris is the CIRAS Technology Assistance Program (TAP) Director. In this role he leads CIRAS efforts in building technical skills and deploying advanced technology in Iowa manufacturers.



Matt Joens joined MākuSafe[®] in June of 2019 with 11 years of professional experience including time spent as Safety/Loss Control for a heavy highway/ bridge building company based in Des Moines. During his time in the safety world, he spearheaded a partnership with federal OSHA and the general contractor on the Interstate 80 bridge expansion project in western Iowa. With loss control being his primary focus, he developed relationships with project superintendents,

foremen and laborers to ensure site safety remained a top priority and provided training to laborers and operators. He was also able to obtain his OSHA 10hr and OSHA 30hr certifications as well as a tower rescue certification. Matt is also a Certified Occupational Safety Specialist (COSS).



Kiana Johnson was named the O'Brien County Economic Development Director in 2005 and has served in that role ever since. Johnson graduated from Buena Vista University in 2001 with a BA Degree in Accounting and received her Economic Development Finance Professional Certification (EDFP) from the National Development Council in 2020.



Peggy Kerr was named team leader of the Iowa Economic Development Authority's (IEDA) International Trade Office in November 2017 and served as marketing manager since December 1994. She assists Iowa companies in market development, develops trade promotion programs and advises companies on the technical aspects of exporting. Peggy came to the IEDA with 17 years' experience in international trade with an Iowa company. There, her

responsibilities included all aspects of exporting; including letters of credit, documentation, transportation and pre and post-sale activities. Peggy has an associate degree from Kirkwood Community College in International Trade Marketing and a bachelor's degree from Coe College in Business Administration.



Joshua Laraby joined Fairfield Economic Development Association (FEDA) in January of 2015 as assistant director. In October 2016 he was hired as the executive director for FEDA. Prior to his executive director role, Josh came with experience in international economic development, real estate development, real estate management, manufacturing, new business recruitment, entrepreneurial support, and civic involvement. Serving as the chief administrative officer for

FEDA, Josh is charged with administrative oversight; policy and program development; new and existing business growth and retention; membership relations; and local, regional, state and federal governmental relations and policy advocacy.

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Jill Lippincott serves as Team Lead for the Innovation team, Iowa Economic Development Authority's (IEDA) liaison to the Iowa Innovation Council, a thinktank of Iowa leaders that recommend public policy and strategies to support innovation initiatives to advance Iowa's Bioscience, IT and Advanced Manufacturing industry sectors. IEDA's Innovation team also connects entrepreneurs with Innovation funding and business owners with resources, educational materials and financial

opportunities for workforce training, internships and certification through the Targeted Small Business program. Jill holds a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado-Denver.



Working at a refugee center in Athens, Greece, Iowa native **Dustin Miller** had an epiphany. "Over a meal and a game of backgammon with a Sudanese refugee, it hit me that I'd rather use my mind to affect public policy that impacts people than to simply serve people meals," he says. "That's why I decided to go to law school instead of international development." World travels and noteworthy personal experiences have shaped Dustin's approach to life and law. From community

service projects at home and abroad to working in microfinance in Kenya, traveling during upheavals in Beirut, and sailing the English Channel, Dustin gained cultural insights and an appreciation for diversity. As legislative counsel at Nyemaster Goode, Dustin primarily represents lowa-based associations as a lobbyist at the lowa Legislature and with the agencies of the State of Iowa. His work involves a wide range of public policy issues, such as water quality, environmental issues, economic development, taxation, public finance and utilities.



Dawn Oliver joined the Iowa Women's Foundation as president/CEO in February 2013 after most recently serving as executive director for the Women's Foundation of Greater Kansas City for eight years. Dawn holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work from the University of Iowa and has worked in the nonprofit field for more than 30 years as a volunteer and professional. She spent the first 15 years in the public housing field, providing direct services, and then moved into

nonprofit management, focusing on fundraising and ultimately providing vision, leadership, and management to two women's funds. In 2013, the Corridor Business Journal named Dawn as one of the area's "Movers & Shakers." Dawn enthusiastically lives by the belief that "improving the lives of women and girls is a must, not only for our families but our communities and, ultimately, our world!"



Nathan Overberg serves as the firm's government law practice area leader. His practice focuses on Urban Renewal/Economic Development. Nathan represents cities and counties to help them realize economic development opportunities under local and state laws. He advises public entities as they work to creatively renew and develop their municipalities and create new jobs through the use of tax incentives. He works frequently with other attorneys on financings related to

economic development projects. His work often involves a variety of public and private sector constituencies, and it requires an appreciation for the perspective of each player with a stake in his clients' projects. It also requires the ability to work tenaciously to bring a project to fruition. He has worked on projects impacting a small number of new jobs to projects creating hundreds of jobs with millions of dollars of investment.



Marvin Sims serves as the director of HSE and construction for Procter & Gamble. Sims is an Iowa City native and earned his bachelor's degree in business at the University of Iowa. He has been employed by Procter & Gamble for 32 years.

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Jamie Sorenson has been a lifelong Iowa resident with a great fondness for outdoor recreation. Over the years, Sorenson has participated on various boards, commissions, and councils, but most of his career has been in spinning up entrepreneurial small businesses that have mainly focused on commercial vehicles, agriculture, and construction with an eye towards identifying and filling gaps in products and services. After being convinced to join Winnebago

Industries in 2014, Sorenson led the Winnebago Commercial and Specialty Vehicle division in Forest City, Iowa for about five years, eventually growing the division into its own business unit in 2018. From the technology and innovation that was introduced into the Specialty Vehicle products over those five years, along with the rapid growth of Winnebago Industries through key business acquisitions, he was asked to develop and lead a new enterprise team that focused on technology and product innovation that would serve all the business units of Winnebago Industries. This resulted in the creation of the Advanced Technology Group in 2019, where the focus is on future product electrification, connectivity, autonomy, and advanced materials.



Elizabeth Stanek is the executive director for Linking Families and Communities. Her responsibilities include daily management of the agency, meeting with community partners, facilitating collaboration, and overseeing contract origination, amendments, renewals, fund billing/accounting and reporting of performance measures and outcomes. Elizabeth grew up near Clare and graduated from Humboldt High School. Graduating from Central

College in 1996 with a BA in Education, Elizabeth began working as a special education teacher and coaching at Clarke Community Schools until taking the position at Linking Families and Communities in June 2000. Elizabeth finds working at Linking Families and Communities a rewarding experience as the early childhood years are the best time for successful prevention and early intervention. Elizabeth has served as the president of the Fort Dodge Noon Rotary Club and served on the Iowa Central Community College Foundation Board. She is currently the Fort Dodge Noon Rotary Secretary and a member of the Iowa Central Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee. Elizabeth resides near Callender with her husband, Jeff, and their three children, Brock, Madelyn and Drew.



Sarah Thompson, owner of Rural Revitalization LLC is a consultant and former main street & economic development director and co-creator of the 2018 Rural That Works conference. She specializes in helping rural communities create non-profit economic development boards as well as strategic planning, placemaking, marketing, and historic preservation for existing boards in communities with a population under 5,000. Recently, she was interviewed by Dane Carlson for the

Econ Dev Show Podcast and was featured in December as a 2022 Person to Watch by the Des Moines Register. Together with her peer and friend Derek Lumsden, she has a YouTube channel called Destination Diaries in which they highlight businesses throughout the state of Iowa that are unique or are doing something positive in their communities. She also writes stories for businesses and/or downtown nonprofits that can be used as fundraisers, called Fables, Tales, Legends, & Lore: Stories for your Business. Sarah has been on the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Task Invest Force, which is dedicated to entrepreneurship and housing, since 2018. Through that, she is also on committees for a Leadership Bootcamp & Exchange, a new Rural Scale-Up Program, and a rural Technical Assistance Program.



Bethany Wilcoxon leads McClure's community development team, developing and guiding cross-discipline planning opportunities that enhance the quality of life in Upper Midwest communities. She previously led the development of The Tomorrow Plan and served as director of Capital Crossroads, the regional vision plan for Central Iowa. Bethany and her family live in Des Moines.



Michelle Yun is from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She earned a degree in Chemical Engineering and a certificate (minor) in Materials Science and Product Engineering from Princeton University. After college, Michelle worked at Exelon for 10 years, first as an engineer in Nuclear and later as a lawyer supporting Nuclear and Constellation. She started at Alliant Energy in 2016, practicing law for the company for four years. In 2020, Michelle took a leadership role in Generation

Markets and, in 2021, was promoted to senior manager of strategy, and electrification. Michelle lives just outside of Madison with her husband, son and dog.

Contacts

Iowa Economic Development Authority Contacts

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Kelly Swenson, Business and Community Development Manager 515.281.2648 kelly.swensen@midamerican.com

Exhibitors

Alliant Energy Braun Intertec Buena Vista University – Strategic Partnerships First Children's Finance Impact7G, Inc. Iowa American Water Iowa Economic Development Authority Iowa Finance Authority Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council McClure Engineering MidAmerican Energy Professional Developers of Iowa RDG Planning & Design RoleCall Rural Revitalization LLC Terracon UNI – Institute for Decision Making WaterFurnace Geothermal Winnebago Industries, Inc. Woodruff Construction

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