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MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

**Driven by Purpose**

*Powered by Partnerships*

**Greater Dubuque Development's 2024-2025 Annual Meeting**



Kay Takes, 2024-2025 Chair of Greater Dubuque Development's Board of Directors addresses the audience at our 2023-2024 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

Save the date to join Greater Dubuque Development's Board of Directors, investors, and team for our 2024-2025 Annual Meeting on **Thursday, July 17, 2025** in the Reflections event space at the Q Casino + Resort kicking off with cocktails and hor d'oeuvres at 5:30 p.m.

Our annual gathering addresses official business of the Board of Directors and offers an opportunity to reflect on the past year's progress with a look into the

partnerships and initiatives that will carry us into the future as we deliver on the promise that **YOU can be great here.** Registration for this free event will open in June.

## Business Services

**YOUR BUSINESS** can be great here.



### Air Service Update

#### **Morning Flights to Chicago Now Available**

As of Friday, May 16, 2025, you can now book morning flights from Dubuque to Chicago, departing at 7:50 a.m. seven days a week. Daily return flights leave O'Hare International Airport at 5:00 p.m. This new schedule offers over 200 connections both outbound and inbound with the United Airlines and American Airlines networks, as well as a full day to do business in the Chicago area.

[Explore and book flights today at flydbq.com](https://flydbq.com)



**Interested in learning more about our role in bringing commercial air service back to the Dubuque Regional Airport?**

Contact Jason White, Vice President of Business Services, at 563-557-9049 or [jasonw@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:jasonw@greaterdubuque.org)



**Physical Therapy Solutions**  
*Solutions for an ACTIVE life*

**YOU can be great here.**

## Business Expansion

### **New Dubuque Location Grows Physical Therapy Solutions' Footprint**

Physical Therapy Solutions is expanding its Greater Dubuque presence with a new facility at the corner of Harrison and Camp Streets near the Locust Street Hy-Vee in Dubuque. The 6,300-square-foot facility will enable the business to retain four current jobs and add up to three new full-time positions over the next year.

[Read more about Physical Therapy Solutions' expansion project](#)



**Interested in learning more about how we can support your business expansion plans?**

Contact Daniel McDonald, Director of Existing Business, at 563-557-9049 or [danielm@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:danielm@greaterdubuque.org)



## Financial Incentives

### **Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Grants Support Smart Technology Adoption and Integration for Greater Dubuque Businesses**

In April 2025, the Iowa Economic Development Authority announced the latest round of [Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Grants](#), approving \$2,016,756 in support for 33 companies statewide.

From the Greater Dubuque region, five firms were awarded a combined \$265,195 to support smart technology adoption and integration: Forged Authority, JEDA Polymers, Smith Cabinet Works, Unison Solutions. and Vanguard.

[Learn more about the Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program](#)



**Interested in learning more about the Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program?**

Contact Daniel McDonald, Director of Existing Business, at 563-557-9049 or [danielm@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:danielm@greaterdubuque.org)



Photo courtesy of the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

**Regional Collaboration**

**Tri-State Practitioners Convene in Southwest Wisconsin**

On Thursday, April 17, 2025, the Tri-State Economic Development Practitioners from from Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin gathered in the village of Potosi in Grant County, WI, for their quarterly meeting at the Hub & Pages Parcel – home to a co-working space, bookstore, coffee shop, and Modern Learners, an education consulting business.

[Read more on this quarter's gathering of the Tri-State Economic Development Practitioners](#)





## Interested in learning more about the Tri-State Economic Developers Practitioners network?

Contact Jason White, Vice President of Business Services, at 563-557-9049 or [jasonw@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:jasonw@greaterdubuque.org)

### Workforce Solutions

**YOUR CAREER** can be great here.



From left to right, Opportunity Dubuque graduates, Jerry Russell and Natalie Meyer, with NICC Workforce Consultant, Marcus Ingles; Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention addressing the audience; Rick Dickinson of Greater Dubuque Development and Mike Fortman of TH Media.

### Recruitment Resources

#### **Data, Engagement, and Collaboration Highlighted at May 1st Workforce Solutions Breakfast**

More than 135 HR professionals, business leaders, and elected officials gathered at Diamond Jo Casino for a Workforce Solutions Breakfast on Thursday, May 1, 2025, hosted by Greater Dubuque Development Corporation and made possible by investors in [AccessDubuqueJobs.com](https://AccessDubuqueJobs.com).

The event spotlighted new data, workforce trends, and collaborative initiatives—from Skills Gap findings and Opportunity Dubuque testimonials to child care, air service updates, and insights from our Talent Dubuque: An Intern Engagement Program and **YOU can be great here** Community of Colleges efforts.

[Read a full recap of our May 1st Workforce Solutions Breakfast](#)



## Data & Resources

### 2024 Skills Gap Analysis Now Available

At the recent Workforce Solutions Breakfast, Greater Dubuque Development shared the [2024 Skills Gap Analysis](#), identifying talent shortages across a seven-county, tri-state region and highlighting where training and support are most needed.

This year's report, developed in collaboration with Northeast Iowa Community College, underscores critical gaps in middle-skill occupations and reinforces the need for layered solutions—from incumbent worker training to accessible transit and short-term credential programs like those offered through Opportunity Dubuque.

[Learn more and download the 2024 Skills Gap Analysis](#)



### Interested in learning more about the 2024 Skills Gap Analysis?

Contact Nic Hockenberry, Director of Workforce Programming, at 563-557-9049 or [nicolash@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:nicolash@greaterdubuque.org)



## Training & Upskilling

## Opportunity Dubuque Success Stories Featured

[Opportunity Dubuque](#) is a nationally recognized career training initiative made possible through a partnership between Greater Dubuque Development Corporation and Northeast Iowa Community College, with vital financial support from the City of Dubuque, Dubuque County, and the DRA. Together, Opportunity Dubuque provides tuition-free, short-term training that leads directly to employment in high-demand fields such as healthcare, manufacturing, transportation, and business services. More than just job training, Opportunity Dubuque connects people to career pathways, builds talent pipelines for local employers, and strengthens the economic fabric of the region.

Hear from Opportunity Dubuque graduates [Jerry Russell](#), [Joseph Lewis](#), and [Natalie Meyer](#) on how the program has helped them achieve professional success and reach personal goals. Explore upcoming Opportunity Dubuque programs including [Welding](#)

(starting May 27th), [Semi Truck CDL](#) (starting June 2nd and June 30th), [Construction Equipment](#) (starting June 2nd), and [Dual Construction](#) (starting June 2nd).

[Learn more and explore certificate programs through Opportunity Dubuque](#)



**Interested in learning more about how Opportunity Dubuque is supporting your workforce needs?**

Contact Nic Hockenberry, Director of Workforce Programming, at 563-557-9049 or [nicolash@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:nicolash@greaterdubuque.org)

## AccessDubuqueJobs.com Update

**YOUR SUPPORT can be great here.**

Invest in [AccessDubuqueJobs.com](#) and receive unlimited access to the top regional jobs site, expert assistance from our Workforce Solutions team, and a suite of newcomer service tools. Your investment powers these services, supports our college engagement efforts, and fuels outreach to job seekers in our market and beyond.

### New Investors

- Operation Empower

### Renewed Investors

- Colony Brands, Inc.
- Crescent Community Health Center
- Design Build Structures
- Dupaco Community Credit Union
- Edwards Cast Stone Company
- FEH Design

### Renewed Investors, cont'd

- Fidelity Bank & Trust
- Flexsteel Industries, Inc
- Harris Golf Cars
- IBEW Local Union 704
- ImOn Communications
- Kunkel& Associates, Inc.
- McCullough Creative, Inc.
- MercyOne
- Mi-T-M Corporation
- UnityPoint Health Finley Hospital
- Young-Uns Preschool & Childcare Center



### Interested in becoming a Workforce Solutions Investor?

Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or [mandid@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:mandid@greaterdubuque.org)



AccessDubuqueJobs.com is made possible through a partnership between TH Media and Greater Dubuque Development Corporation.

### Community Information

**YOUR LIFE can be great here.**





## Community News

### **DRA Celebrates 40 Years**

On Thursday, June 5, 2025 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Q Casino + Resort's new Reflections event space, join the DRA for a special evening honoring four decades of impact, growth, and community partnerships with inspiring speakers, a celebratory toast, light appetizers and a cash bar. RSVP now for this free public event that is open to all ages!

[RSVP Online >](#)

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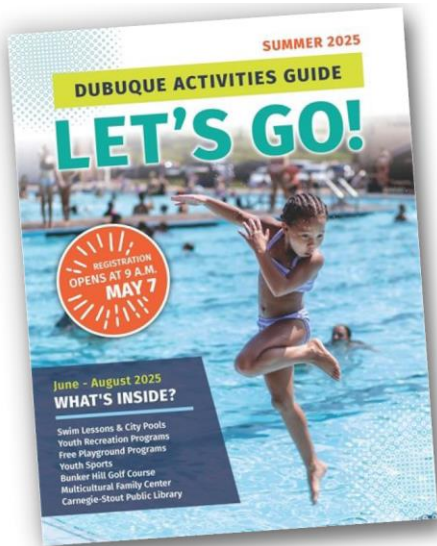
## Community News

### **Bring Envision 2030 Idea Sessions to You**

[Envision 2030](#), a community-wide visioning process led by the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce, is available to host onsite facilitated idea sessions. Request a session for you and your employees to help shape the ideas that could become the next big projects to drive Dubuque's progress.

[Learn More >](#)

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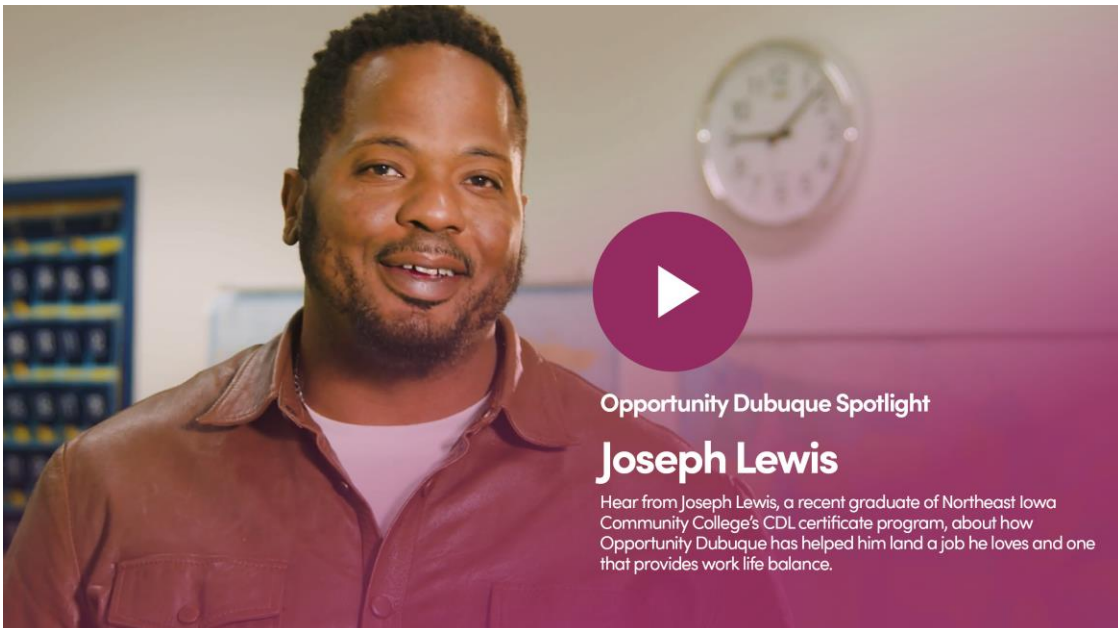


## Community News

### Summer 2025 Let's Go! Activities Guide

The City of Dubuque [Let's Go! Summer Activities Guide](#) is now available online filled with programs for youth, teens, and adults offered by City of Dubuque Parks & Recreation, Flora & Sutton Pools, Multicultural Family Center, Bunker Hill Golf Course, and the Carnegie-Stout Public Library.

[Explore the Guide Online >](#)



Opportunity Dubuque Spotlight

### Joseph Lewis

Hear from Joseph Lewis, a recent graduate of Northeast Iowa Community College's CDL certificate program, about how Opportunity Dubuque has helped him land a job he loves and one that provides work life balance.

## Upcoming Events

**YOUR NETWORK** can be great here.

**Tuesday, May 27, 2025**

## **Tariffs & The Economic Impact**

**12:00 - 1:00 p.m. | Dyersville Social Corner | 625 3rd Ave SE, Dyersville, IA**

Tariffs affect every corner of our economy—from manufacturers to consumers. Join the Dyersville Area Chamber of Commerce for a dynamic discussion led by an expert economist and key industry voices to explore how recent and proposed tariffs are shaping the business landscape in the Greater Dubuque region.

Speakers include Dr. Perter Orazem, Economic Prospect for the U.S. and Iowa, Dave Bell of SpeCast, Dave Korte of Victory Ford and Spahn & Rose. Email Karla Thompson, Executive Director, Dyersville Area Chamber of Commerce at [kthompson@dyersville.org](mailto:kthompson@dyersville.org) or call 563-875-2311 to RSVP.

[Visit the Dyersville Area Chamber of Commerce Online >](#)

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**Wednesday, June 25, 2025**

## **Power of 10: Insights to Elevate**

**8:00 - 10:00 a.m. | Northeast Iowa Community College Town Clock Business Center | 680 Main St, Dubuque, IA**

Great leaders understand that impactful insights can be brief yet powerful. The Power of 10 event brings together 10 local leaders to share 10 of their best insights and strategies in just 10 minutes of impactful wisdom, offering fresh perspectives and actionable takeaways. This fast-paced event is designed to inspire, challenge and equip professionals at all levels with strategies to lead with confidence and innovation. Speakers include Jordan Fullan (HODGE), Chad Wolbers (Crescent Community Health Center), JB Priest (M&M Sales Enterprises, Inc), Chip Murray (Fidelity Bank & Trust), Travis Frampton (University of Dubuque), Amy Hawkins (Dubuque Community Schools), Rick Dickinson (Greater Dubuque Development Corporation), Danielle Leibfried (United Way), Keith Rahe (Travel Dubuque), and Chad Chandlee (Westmark Enterprises).

[Learn More and Register Online >](#)

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**Weekly on Wednesdays**

## **1 Million Cups**

**8:45 - 9:45 a.m. | Collins Community Credit Union | 255 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque, IA**

1 Million Cups (1MC), a nationwide initiative to engage, educate, and connect area entrepreneurs, has [established a Dubuque chapter](#), giving entrepreneurs from across the Greater Dubuque region the chance to share their story in a friendly, feedback-rich environment. Presenters talk about their businesses, exchange ideas, and receive supportive insights from a diverse audience of peers, mentors, and community leaders. Area entrepreneurs from any industry can apply for the opportunity to present and engage with a network for support.

[Learn More and Apply Online >](#)

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## **Recent & Upcoming Religious Holidays & Cultural Observances**

**May | Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**

**May | Jewish American Heritage Month**

**May 26 | Memorial Day**

**May 29 | Ascension Day (Western Christian)**

**June | LGBTQ+ Pride Month**

**June 2-3 | Shavout (Jewish)**

**June 6-10 | Eid Al-Adha (Islamic)**

**June 8 | Pentecost (Eastern Orthodox & Western Christian)**

**June 12 | Anne Frank Day**

**June 14 | Flag Day**

**June 15 | All Saints' Day (Eastern Orthodox Christian)**

**June 15 | Father's Day**

**June 19 | Juneteenth**

## **YOU Can Be Great Here Campaign**

**Our sights are set on 5 goals through 2027.**

**Grow our regional workforce to over 64,000 jobs.**

**Support median household income to reach \$76,000.**

**Encourage and facilitate \$1 billion of new construction.**

**Reduce regional poverty by 5%.**

**Reach a population of 105,000 in the Greater Dubuque region.**

[View Progress](#)

View past issues of the newsletter [here](#).





# YOU can be great here.

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