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JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

Closing Out One Chapter, Opening the Next

A Message from Our President & CEO

June is always a busy month for Greater Dubuque Development. As our fiscal year closes, we are preparing for the year ahead—approving budgets and goals, finalizing our nomination report, preparing for a board leadership transition, and expressing our sincere thanks to board members whose leadership and service have helped advance our mission of growing business, population, and community.

As many of you know, this year has brought an executive leadership transition within the organization. In the weeks ahead, we will share updates on new team alignments that position us for continued success. I'm deeply grateful to our staff for their professionalism throughout this process and for their transparency in offering insights on how we can strengthen our work together in service to the Greater Dubuque region.

I am also excited to invite you to a special event—our Annual Meeting—at the **NEW This is Iowa Ballpark - Event Center** at the Field of Dreams on **Tuesday, July 14**. Greater Dubuque Development will be holding the first non-baseball event in the new event center, and we would be honored to have you as our guest.

Thank you to Dyersville Events and Travel Dubuque for their expertise and stewardship during what promises to be the most active summer at the Field of Dreams since the movie was filmed in 1989.

Let us know if you can join us as we celebrate this year's annual meeting theme—**Solid Foundations. Greater Future.** Your partnership is a key part of both. In many ways, the coming year may be one of the most pivotal in our organization's history—making the theme, and the moment, especially fitting.



With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Jason E. White".

Jason White

President & CEO

jasonw@greaterdubuque.org | 563-557-9049



You're Invited

Greater Dubuque Development's 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

Join Greater Dubuque Development on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, as we reflect on the foundational work, partnerships, and investments that continue to strengthen the Greater Dubuque region and look ahead to the opportunities that will shape our future.

This year's Annual Meeting will be held at the Field of Dreams' [This Is Iowa Ballpark - Event Center](#) in Dyersville, marking the first corporate event hosted in the venue. As the organization's Annual Meeting, the evening will also include the official business of the Greater Dubuque Development Board of Directors. Space is limited and [registration is required](#).

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

5:00 p.m. Cocktails & Baseball Fare Buffet | 6:00 p.m. Program & Presentations

This Is Iowa Ballpark - Event Center, Field of Dreams

29135 Ghost Player Dr., Dyersville, Iowa



RSVP by Tuesday, July 7th for our 2025-2026 Annual Meeting

Business Support & Attraction

YOUR BUSINESS can be great here.



Scenes from the Verena Court groundbreaking event and rendering of HODGE's materials handling facility to be built as part of the multi-phase industrial development. Images courtesy of HODGE.

Business Expansion

Outfly Development Breaks Ground on Verena Court

On Monday, June 29, 2026, Outfly Development broke ground on Verena Court, a new multi-phase industrial development in the Dubuque Industrial Center South. Phase I includes an approximately 64,000-square-foot purpose-built flagship facility for HODGE's material handling business while creating an additional five acres of build-ready industrial capacity for future employers.

The project reflects a collaborative effort between Outfly Development, HODGE, the City of Dubuque, and Greater Dubuque Development, creating new opportunities for business growth and investment across the Greater Dubuque region.

[Read more about the Verena Court multi-phase industrial development](#)



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

Contact Daniel McDonald, Director of Existing Business, at 563-557-9049 or danielm@greaterdubuque.org



Business Expansion

Suttner America Expanding with New Facility in Dyersville

Suttner America Co. is expanding with plans to construct a new 30,000-square-foot facility in Dyersville's industrial park. Construction is expected to begin this summer, with the company planning to relocate to its new facility in mid-2027.

As Suttner America explored expansion opportunities, Greater Dubuque Development served as the company's initial local resource before the project ultimately moved forward in Dyersville. Greater Dubuque Development congratulates the City of Dyersville and Dyersville Economic Development Corporation on securing this investment in the Greater Dubuque region.

[Learn more about Suttner America Co.'s expansion in Dyersville](#)



Interested in learning more about our site selection services?

Contact Jason White, President & CEO, at 563-557-9049
or jasonw@greaterdubuque.org



**Iowa Workforce
Development**

Workforce Funding

Manufacturers Invited to Apply for AMP'D Iowa Workforce Training Grants

Applications opened Monday, June 29, 2026, for manufacturers across Iowa to apply for funding through the new [Advanced Manufacturing Pathways Development \(AMP'D\) Iowa](#) grant program. The initiative provides an opportunity for manufacturing businesses in the Greater Dubuque region to leverage State funding with private investment to support company-driven skilled worker training.

Eligible manufacturers may receive reimbursement for training both new and existing employees. An informational webinar will be held on **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.**, and applications for the first round of funding are due by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, July 24, 2026.



Interested in exploring if this grant program is a fit for your business?

Contact Nic Hockenberry, Director of Workforce Programming, at 563-557-9049 or nicolash@greaterdubuque.org



Natalie Cerón (left) and Daniel Luna (right), owners of La Venta Café & Specialty Coffee, recently shared their story in a **YOU can be great here** video, reflecting on the support, partnerships, and opportunities that have helped their business grow in the Greater Dubuque region.

Entrepreneurship

YOUR BUSINESS can be great here: La Venta

When Daniel Luna and Natalie Cerón opened La Venta Café & Specialty Coffee in Dubuque, they brought years of experience producing, roasting, and exporting specialty coffee from Colombia. In just one year, the business has grown into a destination for coffee lovers from across the Greater Dubuque region and beyond.

In a new **YOU can be great here** video, Daniel and Natalie share how local programs, business support, and a welcoming community helped them establish and grow their business in Dubuque.

[Watch the video and hear La Venta's story of building a small business in Dubuque](#)

YOUR FUTURE can be great here.



Scenes from Talent Dubuque's Sunset Social at Eagle Point Park, where interns gathered for a picnic overlooking the Mississippi River (left) and enjoyed some friendly competition with ladder ball (center), bean bags (right), and other yard games.

Intern Engagement

Talent Dubuque Summer Intern Program Continues

On Tuesday, June 23, 2026, Talent Dubuque participants gathered at Eagle Point Park for the program's second summer event, a Sunset Social overlooking the Mississippi River. Interns enjoyed a picnic, yard games, and the opportunity to build connections with fellow interns while experiencing one of the Greater Dubuque region's signature community destinations.

The Sunset Social builds on the program's June 11th Welcome Luncheon and is one of several networking and community engagement opportunities designed to help interns envision a future in the Greater Dubuque region.

[Learn more about Talent Dubuque and the program's Welcome Luncheon kickoff](#)



Interested in learning more about Talent Dubuque?

Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org

Future Leadership Team Explores 2025 Skills Gap Analysis

At its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, Greater Dubuque Development's Future Leadership Team reviewed findings from the [2025 Skills Gap Analysis](#) and discussed how current workforce trends are shaping the region's long-term talent strategies. The annual analysis, developed in partnership with Northeast Iowa Community College, examines employer demand, educational completions, and demographic trends impacting the Greater Dubuque region.

The meeting also marked the conclusion of terms for 15 of the Future Leadership Team members. Greater Dubuque Development extends its appreciation to those outgoing members whose 2-year terms have concluded for their service and contributions. We look forward to welcoming 15 new emerging leaders following the organization's 2025-2026 Annual Meeting.

[Read more about the June 3rd Future Leadership Team meeting and outgoing members](#)



Interested in learning more about the Future Leadership Team?

Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org



Opportunity Dubuque

Meet Amy Henson: Connecting Training to Opportunity

As one of Opportunity Dubuque's two Career Pathway Coaches, Amy Henson helps participants access training, overcome barriers, and connect with career opportunities in high-demand fields. Through a partnership between Greater Dubuque Development Corporation

Amy Henson (above), Career Pathway Coach with Opportunity Dubuque.

and Northeast Iowa Community College, Career Pathway Coaches play a vital role in helping individuals complete training programs and connect with regional employers.

[Learn more about Amy Henson and the role of the Career Pathway Coaches](#)



Interested in learning more about Opportunity Dubuque?

Contact Nic Hockenberry, Director of Workforce Programming, at 563-557-9049 or nicolash@greaterdubuque.org



Scenes from Distinctively Dubuque in 2026: Participants engage in a community discussion session (left), hear from community leaders including City of Dubuque Mayor Brad Cavanagh (center), and explore local arts and culture during a visit to Voices Studios as part of the program's Arts & Culture night (right).

Newcomer Services

New 2027 Dates Added for Distinctively Dubuque

Help new employees build connections beyond the workplace with registration now open for upcoming Distinctively Dubuque sessions. As Greater Dubuque Development's newcomer engagement program, Distinctively Dubuque is designed to connect those new to or returning to the area within the last 5 years with the people, places, and opportunities that make the region unique.

Remaining 2026 Sessions

August 19 – September 16, 2026

September 30 – October 28, 2026 2027 Sessions

2027 Sessions Now Accepting Registrations

January 27 – February 24, 2027

March 10 – April 7, 2027

August 18 – September 15, 2027

September 29 – October 27, 2027

Employers are encouraged to register newly hired employees and recently relocated team members to help them build community connections and establish roots in the Greater Dubuque region.

Distinctively Dubuque is offered at no cost thanks to the generous support of the DRA, the City of Dubuque, and the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors. Registration is easy using our [online form](#) or by contacting Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at mandid@greaterdubuque.org or 563-557-9049.

[Learn more and register for an upcoming session of Distinctively Dubuque](#)



Interested in learning more about Distinctively Dubuque?

Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org

YOUR SUPPORT can be great here.

Invest in AccessDubuqueJobs.com and receive unlimited access to the top regional jobs site, over 10,000 resumes, 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

- Friesland Campina formerly Wisconsin Whey Protein

Renewed Investors

- Andersen Windows & Doors
- Conlon Construction Co.
- Decker Precision Machining Inc

Renewed Investors, cont'd

- East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA)
- Grand View Methodist Church
- Grant Regional Health Center
- Key West Early Childhood Center
- Oak View Group/Grand River Center
- Prairie Farms
- Q Casino + Resort
- Revolution Lightboards



Interested in becoming a Workforce Solutions Investor?

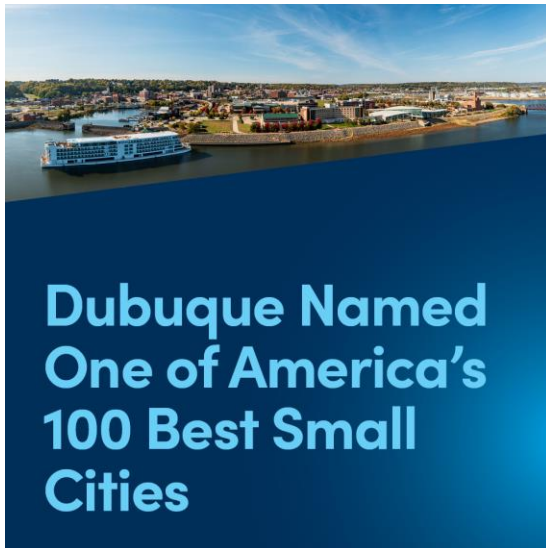
Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org



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

Dubuque Ranks Amongst America's 100 Best Small Cities

Dubuque was recognized among Resonance's 2026 America's Best Small Cities, a ranking of the nation's top 100 metropolitan areas with populations under 500,000. Dubuque also ranked No. 33 for Prosperity, reflecting strong economic performance and reinforcing the community's competitiveness as a place to live, work, and invest.

[Download the report >](#)

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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