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May 2024 NEWSLETTER



An audience of over 175 CEOs, HR professionals, elected officials, and community leaders attended Greater Dubuque Development's Workforce Solutions Breakfast on Friday, May 3, 2024 at the Diamond Jo Casino.

Greater Dubuque Development Hosts Twice Annual Workforce Solutions Breakfast

Thank you to the 175+ who attended our Workforce Solutions Breakfast on Friday, May 3, 2024 at the Diamond Jo Casino in the Port of Dubuque. The presentation, delivered by members of the Greater Dubuque Development team and TH Media staff, provided an overview of outcomes and updates related to our workforce solutions programs, unveiled recent upgrades to AccessDubuqueJobs.com functionality, and reviewed new data on the workforce landscape in relation to the 2023 Skills Gap Analysis. The breakfast closed with a summary of collaborative regional efforts to address child care gaps in the Greater Dubuque region to deliver on the promise that **YOU can be great here.**

[Read the full Workforce Solutions Breakfast recap and download the presentation](#)

YOUR BUSINESS can be great here.



Business Expansion

WHKS & Company Opens New Dubuque Office Thanks to Public- Private Partnerships

Creative public-private partnerships and the redevelopment of an iconic, historic building, play a key role in WHKS & Co., Inc. of East Dubuque, IL, opening a new Dubuque office in the heart of downtown.

[Learn More >](#)



Interested in learning more about our support for regional business expansions?

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

Regional Collaboration



Greater Dubuque Development's regional engagement includes attending events like the Dubuque County Mayor's meeting held earlier this year. Jason White, Vice President of Business Services with Greater Dubuque Development (*far right*) joined the mayors of 9 Dubuque County communities and all 3 Dubuque County supervisors for this annual gathering.

Regional Gatherings Harness Collective Expertise to Capitalize on Shared Opportunities

On April 25, 2024, Greater Dubuque Development hosted the Tri-State Practitioners Meeting, bringing together economic development professionals from across the region. These quarterly events serve as a pivotal platform for regional economic development professionals to exchange ideas, share best practices, and explore collaborative action.

In addition, Greater Dubuque Development is constantly engaging with area city councils, especially across Dubuque County, by attending their regularly scheduled public meetings. Central to Greater Dubuque Development's approach is an emphasis on engagement at the grassroots level.

[Read the Full Story >](#)



Questions about our regional economic development collaborations?

Contact Jason White, Vice President of Business Services, at 563-557-9049 or jasonw@greaterdubuque.org.

Business Expansion



Over 150 people, from construction crews to elected officials, gathered in April to celebrate the next phase in renovation and expansion plans at the Q Casino + Resort. Rick Dickinson, CEO & President of Greater Dubuque Development (*far right*), and fellow Dubuque Initiatives board members broke ground on the Key Hotel.

Groundbreaking Held for Key Component of \$83 Million Chaplain Schmitt Island Renovation Project

Community leaders, elected officials, and staff from the Q Casino + Resort gathered on April 23, 2024 for a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Key Hotel, a seven-story boutique hotel that will be part of Hilton Hotels & Resorts' 'Tapestry Collection'. The new hotel, expected to open in the fall of 2025, will include 90 guest rooms and a rooftop restaurant and bar, offering grand views the Mississippi River and downtown Dubuque. Construction of the hotel constitutes \$47 million as one of several phases of a larger \$83 million renovation and expansion on Chaplain Schmitt Island that the Q Casino + Resort kicked off in 2023.

[Read the Telegraph Herald's Full Story >](#)



Existing Business

Medical Associates Celebrates 100 Years Serving the Greater Dubuque Region

Iowa's longest-running multi-specialty group practices has successfully weathered the many challenges in healthcare for 100 years to remain a leading provider in the Greater Dubuque region.

[Learn More >](#)

Workforce Solutions

YOUR CAREER can be great here.



Scenes from our 2023 Talent Dubuque: An Intern Engagement Program where Summer interns connected with the community and one another over a variety of experiences and events.

Higher Ed Outreach

Talent Dubuque: An Intern Engagement Program Registration Open

Every year, Greater Dubuque Development creates programming to enhance your Summer interns' experience in the Greater Dubuque region through networking opportunities and community engagement. Our [series of six activities this Summer](#) are intended to demonstrate first-hand how **YOU can be great here** in the Greater Dubuque area and maximize retention for the next generation of workforce.

2024 Talent Dubuque Schedule of Activities

Welcome Luncheon: Discovering the Greater Dubuque Region

Thursday, June 6 | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Diamond Jo Casino

Young Professionals of Dubuque (YP) Luncheon

Wednesday, June 12 | 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. | Q Casino + Resort

Riverfront Scavenger Hunt & Taste of Summer

Thursday, June 27 | 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. | National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

Dubuque Region Trivia & Millwork Night Market
Thursday, July 11 | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. | 7 Hills Ballroom & Historic Millwork District

Young Professionals of Dubuque (YP) Luncheon
Date TBA

Closing Luncheon: YOU can be great here
Thursday, July 25 | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Grand River Center

This FREE program is open to interns of Workforce Solutions Investors or any student currently enrolled in a regional institution of higher learning. Sign up your interns today for the series; participants will register for individual events as dates approach to ensure accurate food counts and dietary needs.

[Register your Summer interns for Talent Dubuque: An Intern Engagement Program](#)



Interested in learning more about Talent Dubuque: An Intern Engagement Program?

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



Jan Powers (center) with representatives of Dupaco Community Credit Union, the Q Casino + Resort / DRA, Northeast Iowa Community College, Greater Dubuque Development, and the City of Dubuque.

Newcomer Services

Powers Passes Distinctively Dubuque Facilitator Torch

With heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation, Greater Dubuque Development recognizes Jan Powers for her service in welcoming newcomers through our [Distinctively Dubuque](#) program since 2010. She has facilitated 57 classes, connecting with an estimated 1,575 newcomers over the years.

[Learn More >](#)



Interested in learning more about the Distinctively Dubuque program?

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

Bright Start to 2024 Employment Figures in Dubuque County

Dubuque County's latest employment figures for April reveal a bright start for 2024. Greater Dubuque Development monitors the Iowa Workforce Development Labor Market Division's monthly total non-farm employment estimates. Greater Dubuque Development does this as it is an important performance indicator of the local economic climate, and from there Greater Dubuque Development has set a goal for 64,000 employed by the end of 2026.

[Read the Full Story >](#)



Interested in learning more about Dubuque County labor statistics?

Contact Nic Hockenberry, Director of Workforce Programming, at 563-557-9049 or 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.

Renewed Investors

- A.Y.McDonald Manufacturing
- Andersen Windows
- 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
- PSSI
- UnityPoint Health - Finley Hospital
- Young-Uns Preschool & Childcare Center



Interested in becoming a Workforce Solutions Investor and access our complete suite of recruitment and retention tools?

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 #9 Metro Where Gen Z Is Buying Homes

Realtor.com recently identified Dubuque among the top 10 metro areas with the largest percentages of Gen Z buyers who closed on homes in 2022, based on the most recent Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data.

[Learn More >](#)



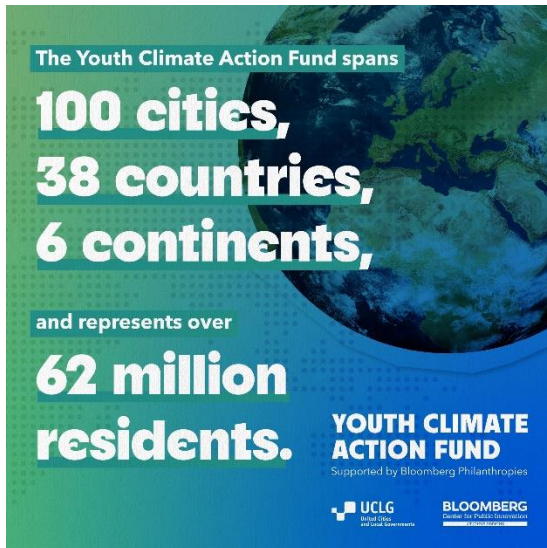
Community News

Fountain of Youth Launches Mentorship Program

After several months of working closely with John Deere Dubuque Works, the Fountain of Youth Program has officially launched a mentorship program that pairs employees of local businesses with Partners in Change participants to support previously incarcerated persons in navigating reentry into the community and the workplace.

[Learn More >](#)

Alejandro Fernandez (*left*), John Deere Dubuque Works, and Caprice Jones (*right*), Fountain of Youth Program, following an informational presentation with local employers at John Deere on May 2, 2024.



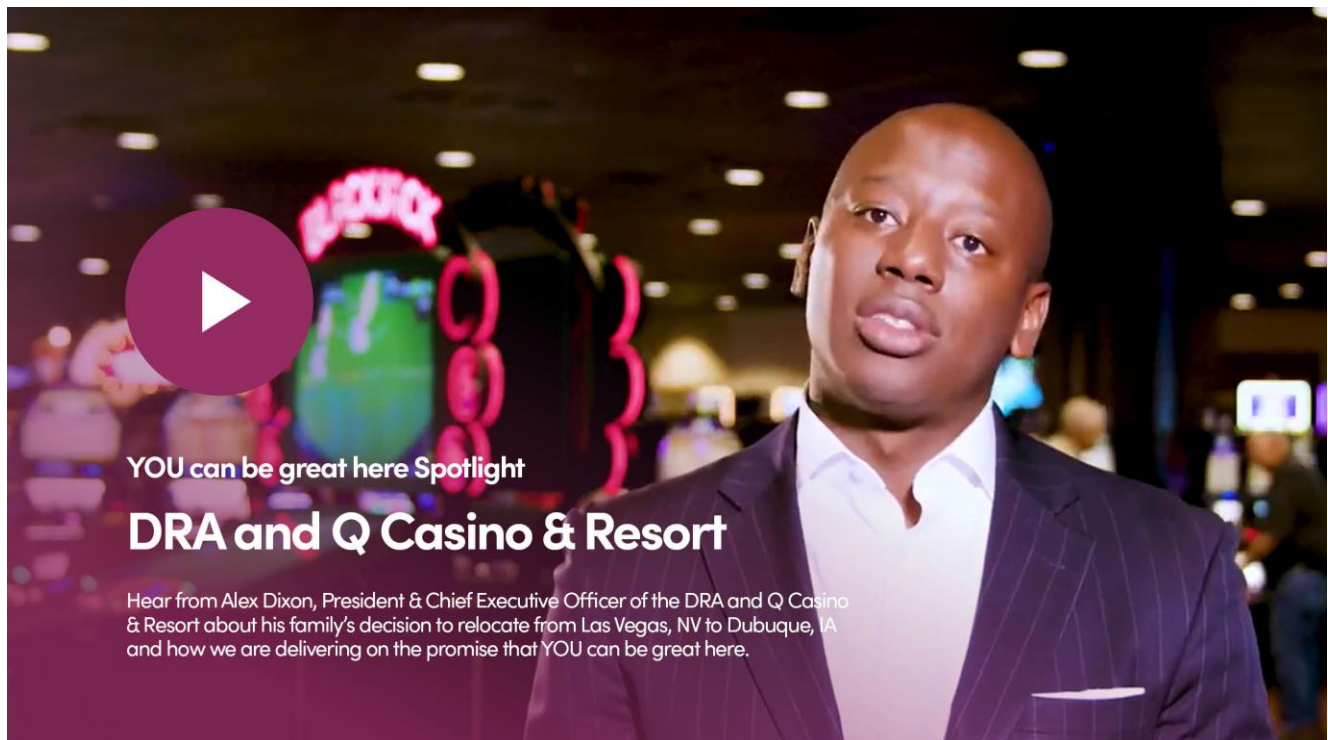
Graphic courtesy of Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Community News

Funding for Youth-Led Climate Action Efforts Available Through City of Dubuque

The City of Dubuque's Office of Sustainability is seeking youth, ages 15-24, to design, produce, and govern urgent climate solutions and will award mini-grants of \$1,000-\$5,000 to support projects to be completed by Fall 2024.

[Learn More >](#)



Upcoming Events

YOUR NETWORK can be great here.

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Women's Leadership Network May Luncheon

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Steeple Square | 101 East 15th Street, Dubuque, IA

The City of Dubuque is collaborating with the Women's Leadership Network to facilitate a panel discussion addressing the various challenges women encounter in the workforce. A data presentation on key indicators impacting women in the workforce will be followed by a panel of diverse speakers offering perspectives from different sectors manufacturing, public safety, engineering, and remote work environments.

[Learn More >](#)

Thursday, May 30 - Friday, May 31, 2024

Wisconsin Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference

Various Times & Locations | Platteville, WI

This Spring, the Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference is coming to Wisconsin for the first time and to our benefit, it is being held within the Greater Dubuque region in Platteville. This 2-day event offers the opportunity to network with fellow community champions from the area and will also help develop new technical skills for promoting entrepreneurship in your own community.

[Learn More >](#)

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

S.M.A.R.T. Series: Strengthening Multi-Cultural Awareness with Real Talk

[Open Hiring: What is Open Hiring and Should I Consider It](#)

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. | Northeast Iowa Community College's Town Clock Business Center
| 680 Main Street, Dubuque, IA**

Join the Fountain of Youth and the Dubuque Area Chamber for the [S.M.A.R.T. Series](#) (Strengthening Multi-cultural Awareness with Real Talk), a program aimed at empowering businesses through diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). The program offers to help employers discover the missing puzzle pieces for an effective business model and unlock the potential of a diverse workforce. The June 4th session is presented by Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and Greater Dubuque Development Corporation on the topic of 'open hiring', a hiring practice where companies hire employees without consideration of an applicant's background. The cost per person is \$20 per session with all proceeds benefiting the [Fountain of Youth Program](#).

[Learn More >](#)

Upcoming Religious Holidays & Cultural Observances

May | Asian American Pacific Islanders Heritage Month

May 21 | World Day for Cultural Diversity

May 23 | Visakha Puja (Buddhist)

May 27 | Memorial Day (United States)

June | LGBTQ+ Pride Month

June 5 | World Environment Day (United Nations)

June 14 | Flag Day (United States)

June 14-19 | Hajj (Islamic)

June 16 | Father's Day

June 16-17 | Eid al-Adha (Islamic)

June 19 | Juneteenth

June 20 | Summer Solstice

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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