



## Kossuth County Economic Development Corp. “At A Glance” Accomplishments:

### **BUSINESS ASSISTANCE:**

**Kossuth County Revolving Loan Fund:** Administered loans to: Grass Masters, Feed Mill Coffee Company, Walker Chiropractic, Titonka Food Center, KLGA Hometown Radio, River’s Edge Gifts, Print Shoppe Plus, Bloom Floral, Plum Creek Winery, The Chocolate Season, Diamonds, Eyes on Thorington, American Marine, and Bancroft CarGo. **KCEDC has administered 19 loans totaling \$620,400.00. 101 Jobs have been created or saved.**

**J & J Custom Meats:** Assisted with identifying financial assistance programs and provided site location options in Kossuth County to Joe and JoAnn Harren for their new business start-up which is located in Whittemore.

**Bancroft Telepharmacy:** Worked with Bancroft Economic Development to locate ReNue Pharmacy in Bancroft which will provide services such as filling prescriptions, immunizations and vaccinations.

**Delta Dental:** Have successfully located two dentists in Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties: Dr. Tony Brantner and Dr. Matthew Merideth. K/PACEDC is the administrator of the payment process and follow through commitment with the utility partners.

**Aluma:** Assisted with identifying financial assistance programs for their latest expansion project in Bancroft. Aluma expanded their current facility with the construction of a 43,500 square ft. building for shipping purposes to support their sales growth.

**Alliant Energy Wind Farm:** Supplied Kossuth County data and information company reps requested on site development. Also provided housing/lodging information for their construction workers and contracted wind employees.

**Gold Eagle Cooperative - Wesley:** Worked with Wesley City Council and Joe Myhre at NIACOG with the company’s voluntary annexation into the city limits of Wesley and to approve the creation of an Urban Renewal for their expansion project.

**KOFAB/PPI/PFI:** Worked with KOFAB/PPI on their expansion project and was the lead contact for Iowa Economic Development Authority in identifying financial assistance programs. KOFAB constructed a 36,000 sq. ft. building to increase capacity to support the sales growth. IEDA awarded KOFAB \$250,000 in direct financial assistance as well as tax benefits from the High Quality Jobs program (HQJP) for this \$4.7 million capital investment, which will be expended over a three-year period.

**Gold Eagle Cooperative - Titonka:** Worked with Board of Supervisors, Joe Myhre at NIACOG, Titonka City Council and County Engineer to approve the creation of an Urban Renewal for their grain bin expansion project in Titonka.

**G-Force Customs:** Assisted with financial assistance programs through Midland Power Cooperative and Corn Belt Power Cooperative. G-Force Customs constructed a 9,200 sq. foot facility just south of Algona on Hwy. 169.

**White Transfer & Storage:** Assisted representatives with identifying financial assistance programs and available land to purchase for their 100,000 square foot warehouse project.

**Lake Mills Motor Sports II (Polaris Dealership):** Assisted representatives with identifying financial assistance programs and available land to purchase for their 7,200+ square foot retail building.

**Cozzini:** Assisted with identifying financial assistance programs through IEDA for their 19,000 square foot expansion project. Total capital investment was \$2.4 million.

**Main Street Manor (Swea City):** Assisted in finding a business to locate in the Manor which was Walker Chiropractic. Also worked with Team Swea City, Mitch Hauskins, County Assessor, and Joe Myhre at NIACOG and USDA to exempt Main Street Manor from property taxes due to their non-profit status.

**ITC Midwest:** Assisted company representatives with educating the public about their proposed transmission line project which would include 400 miles of 345 kilovolt electric transmission lines across north central Iowa to allow for optimal use of wind resources.

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT / JOB CREATION:**

**Snap-on: *Increased by 163 FT Employees***

2010=272    2019=435

**Aluma: *Increased by 111 FT Employees***

2010=75    2019=186

**Hormel Foods: *Increased by 87 FT Employees***

2010=170    2019=257

**Corteva (Dupont Pioneer) Production Plant: *Increased by 17 FT Employees***

2010=46    2019=63

**Country Maid: *Increased by 34 FT Employees***

2010=33    2019=67

**Cozzini: *Increased by 15 FT Employees***

2010=37    2019=52

**Precision Pulley & Idler & Precision Food Innovations: *Increased by 50 FT Employees***

2010=40    2019=90

**Kossuth County has a skilled, efficient and dedicated workforce with a strong work ethic and an employment rate of 98.4%. Nine percent (9%) of businesses surveyed plan to add employees.**

**Source: Kossuth County Business Survey & Iowa Workforce Development**

## **WORKFORCE INITIATIVES:**

### **Business Call Visits Held:**

AGP, Albion Advanced Nutrition, Algona Community Schools, Algona Family YMCA, Algona Publishing, Aluma, American Power Group, AmericInn Hotel, Bancroft CarGo, Bancroft Red Power, Bishop-Garrigan School, Bloom Floral, Brand FX, Brookstone Lodge, Buscher Brother RV, Cook's Scrap Iron, Cornerstone Insurance, Country Maid, Cozzini, Diamonds, Dragotec, Exceptional Opportunities, Eyes on Thorington, Farmers & Traders Savings Bank, G-Force Customs, Gold Eagle Cooperative, Green Plains Renewable Energy, Hormel, HyVee, Innovations Salon & Spa/Café Boutique, KOFAB (PPI) Fabricating and Machine Shop, Kossuth Regional Health Center, Lake Mills Motor Sports II, Loofts Mini Mart, Main Street Manor, MaxYield Cooperative, Pharmacists Mutual Insurance, Pioneer Research Lab and Production Plant, Protein Resources, Reding's Gravel, ReTech Universal Mfg., Sbemco Matting, Smithfield Hogs, Snap-On, Spa Dee Dah, StateLine Cooperative, Suidae Health, The Chocolate Season, Titonka Savings Bank, Walker Chiropractic, Welp Hatchery, White Transfer & Storage.

**Job Postings:** Continue to assist with workforce issues by **emailing resumes** to businesses in both counties for potential employment candidates. We have had a 100% success rate by emailing resumes to businesses. **Also post job opportunities on Kossuth and Palo Alto Websites.**

**Social Media:** Utilize social media to highlight businesses, promote business training workshops for ILCC, advertise community calendar of events and community highlights.

**Economic Impact Analysis:** Create annual snapshot which provides an insight into the impact a particular business has on the local economy. Received the Business Retention & Expansion Award presented by PDI and Smart Solutions.

**Kossuth/Palo Alto County Business Survey:** The information obtained from the Business Survey questionnaire is an intricate part of **Business Retention and Expansion** for both counties. The Survey helps to identify where multiple business locations are, projected expansions, business growth, modernizing business operations, employment and marketing trends.

**15% of businesses surveyed in Kossuth County plan to upgrade their business in the next five years.**

**Source: Kossuth County Business Survey**

**Leadership Development:** Facilitate training sessions for area leaders and community businesses which include Team Building, Communication Skills, Customer Service and Building Better Relationships in Careers.

**Human Resources Networking:** An HR group has been established as a local network group for Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties. A list of job opportunities that businesses plan to have available in the next 3-5 years has been created. The Job Projection spreadsheet is utilized to assist businesses with future workforce. The HR Group meets quarterly and educational meetings are held at their request. K/PACEDC organizes and facilitates the meetings for area businesses to attend.

**Previous Speakers:**

Katy Thomsen, Coaching and Leadership Sessions  
Brenda Clark Hamilton - Employee Retention  
Serrano & Morris - Military Cost Cutters  
Kathy Peterson - How to Become an Indispensable Employee  
Molly Bates - Iowa Lakes Community College - (Connect @ Iowa Lakes)  
Sara Dunnigan - How to use Social Media in the Workplace  
Dave Penton, Kossuth County Emergency Management (A.L.I.C.E. Training)  
Jason Kemp, Home Base Iowa Website Training  
Ann Smisek, Ahlers & Cooney Law Firm - Discussed Sexual Harassment in the Workplace  
Larry Graves, Northwest Communications, Discussed Current Cyber Security Risks

**Intern Program:** Over 50 interns participate every summer. It was developed as a means of securing future workforce. The Intern Program celebrated 20 years of existence in 2019.

- Our goal is to market our area and to let students know that there are jobs available for them to come back to.
- Job Chart is displayed on the websites so Interns can view job openings
- Events and Skill Building sessions are scheduled throughout the summer for the Interns to attend.
- **Businesses have hired 224 Interns as permanent employees.**



**Synchronist Software:** Utility companies and the State of Iowa utilize Business Surveys and interviews from Business Call Visits along with Synchronist, a customized software with matrix analysis. The information gathered is entered into the Synchronist software so customized charts and graphs can be created to show comparison statistics from year to year. **Update over 180 businesses annually in Kossuth County.**



## **Submit Proposals to Business Prospects:**

Provide Community and County information such as building specs, site maps, workforce, financial assistance programs, demographics, utility specs, taxation, education, leading employers and laborshed analysis.

## **Location One Information System (LOIS):**

LOIS is an on-line searchable economic development database that provides detailed information on buildings, sites and locations for businesses looking to expand. If you are in the market for an available site or building, search LOIS database to help you find the best location for your next expansion.



**City Clerks Quarterly Meetings:** Each quarter, we have meetings for the City Clerks of both Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties, which allows them an opportunity to network and share ideas, community information, listen to educational speakers and review new programs that will affect their communities.



### **Previous Speakers:**

Ted Kourousis, NW Iowa Planning  
Joe Myhre, NIACOG  
Chris Mercer, USDA Rural Dev.  
USDA Representatives (Housing, Water & Sewer Representatives)  
Mel Pins, Iowa Brownfield  
Kossuth & Palo Alto County Sheriff Depts.  
Tim McCarten, CPA (City Audit Process and Internal Procedures)  
Julie Roisen, Iowa Department of Revenue (Property Tax Reform)  
Ashley Jared, Iowa Finance Authority (Housing Program)  
Nathan Overberg - Ahlers & Cooney (Urban Renewal Updates)  
Cindy Kendall - ISU Extension/Iowa League of Cities (Community Financial Reports)  
Mary Mosiman, CPA, Iowa State Auditor  
Abby Lukehart – USDA Housing Programs

**Ag Education Day (March 13, 2019):** Educates and informs area crop and livestock producers and agricultural-based businesses about renewable fuels, stages of development, policies and environmental benefits.

**Speakers in 2019 Included:** David Beurle, Dr. Dermot Hayes, Chad Hart, ISU Crop Marketing Specialist and Mike Naig, Iowa Secretary of Ag.

**Kossuth County Housing Needs Assessment:** Worked with MaxField Research and Consulting to prepare the Housing Needs Assessment for Kossuth County. The analysis identifies current and future housing needs to assist decision makers with developing a greater understanding of the local housing market such as target markets for new for-sale, rental and senior housing.

**Home Base Iowa:** Assisted with Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties to become a Home Base Iowa Designations to welcome transitioning military members and their families who are leaving military service and becoming residents in our communities. The Home Base Iowa initiative designates communities as centers of opportunity for military veterans and further highlights Iowa's statewide commitment to welcoming and employing veterans.

**Mid Iowa Growth Partnership: Member of a 9 County Region -** Offer round table discussions that Kossuth & Palo Alto County businesses have been attending to obtain information on housing projects and issues. Mid Iowa Growth Partnership (MIGP) has been giving back to the 9 counties through the Rural Innovative Grant (RIG Grant) by paying for the following documents for Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties: Kossuth County Laborshed Analysis; Palo Alto County Laborshed Analysis; MIGP 9 County Laborshed Analysis; Fringe Benefit Summary Report; Skill Shed Summary Report and Industry Specifics.

**Laborshed Analysis:** Updated the Kossuth and Palo Alto Laborshed reports along with Industry Specific documentation.

**Maintaining Kossuth County Website:** The website advertises areas such as communities, calendar of events, attractions, tourism, business climate, Location One Information System (LOIS) information, available land and buildings and job opportunities. Web presence allows us to feature recent news and highlights around the county as soon as they happen, keeping information fresh and exciting. [www.kossuth-edc.com](http://www.kossuth-edc.com)

## AWARDS:

Received the 2020 **Future Ready Iowa Acknowledgement** from Governor Kim Reynolds for the Intern Program. Future Ready Iowa connects Iowans to the education and training required for careers.

Received the 2019 **Best of Iowa Excellence Award**. BEST of Iowa is a unique collaboration of local economic development groups working with Iowa's utilities and the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The mission is to meet with Iowa companies to identify local economic trends, business needs and opportunities. BEST of Iowa honors organizations that went above and beyond throughout the process. Kossuth/Palo Alto Economic Development Corporation was honored with the 2019 BEST of Iowa Excellence Award.

Maureen Elbert received the 2019 Jeffrey A. Finkle **Organizational Leadership Award** through International Economic Development Council (IEDC). This award recognizes an individual who has continuously led the same non-profit economic development organization with integrity, tenacity, and a philanthropic spirit for at least 15 years and plays a pivotal role in the continued success of their organization.

Received 2019 **Business Retention and Expansion Initiatives Award** through International Economic Development Council (IEDC) for a county with a population less than 25,000.

Received 2019 Professional Developers of Iowa (PDI) **Overall Business Retention and Expansion Program Award for Outstanding Workforce Initiatives**. The program includes an annual business survey, business call visits, economic impact snapshot, intern program, human resources networking committee, and Palo Alto County Leadership that are all critical programs and committees that address workforce issues to keep the region viable and assist with growing the workforce and future leadership pool.

Received 2017 National Rural Economic Development Assoc. **Organization Excellence Award** for implementing a successful rural economic development program for Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties.

Received 2017 MidAmerican Economic Development Council Award for the **Intern Program under Workforce Initiatives**. The Mid-America EDC Annual Economic Development Awards program recognizes outstanding efforts in development of marketing materials, marketing events and economic development efforts in a 12 state region.

## BUSINESS TESTIMONIALS:

"As a manufacturer of Stainless Steel Customized Food Processing Equipment & Components for 40 years, we have seen growth in many phases. Our latest growth at the Fabrication Plant located on KOFAB Drive, has been our most significant expansion ever. Maureen Elbert, KCEDC Director along with John Bilsten, AMU General Manager, were very instrumental in securing funding for our expansion, they each took the initiative of finding us grants and low interest loans to help us launch the project. We now have a clear appreciation of how well KCEDC benefits businesses and the communities in Kossuth County. KOFAB, was acquired in February 2014, by Precision, Inc. (PPI), a 100% employee owned company, based out of Pella, IA. KOFAB, is now part of the food division of Precision, Inc."

**Gary Schiltz**  
**PFI – Precision Food Innovations**  
**PPI - Precision Pulley & Idler**

"I would like to congratulate Kossuth-Palo Alto County Economic Development on their 20 and 10 year milestone anniversaries. I would also like to express my appreciation for all of the assistance they have provided to Country Maid and other businesses in West Bend, such as technical and financial information to assistance with hiring interns and receiving laborshed reports. I would also like to thank them for creating the CEO Steering Committee which helps businesses and K/PACEDC by identifying regional issues that our individual businesses and communities can't address individually. Additionally, the CEO Steering Committee helps business leaders who are new to the area understand the resources that are available to the region and it serves as a great outlet for networking and workforce resources. The West Bend community would like to congratulate K/PACEDC on their many years of service to our area."

**Darin Massner**  
**Country Maid**

"Kossuth County Economic Development Corp. is key to the survival of our area. Over the years, KCEDC has assisted Snap-on Tools with our expansion projects along with retaining our company in the Algona area. We appreciated having Maureen Elbert and her staff put our companies needs first and foremost with identifying technical and financial assistance that were made available to us. The recent success and support of economic development in our area could not have been achieved without KCEDC. One example is initiating Home Base Iowa in Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties which is a great workforce recruitment tool for our company. KCEDC is a critical piece in moving us forward and sustaining success in our region. Congratulations on your 20 and 10 year milestones."

**Chad Devine**  
**Snap-On Tools**

"Many positive things are taking place across Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties. Maureen Elbert and the staff of the Kossuth County and Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporations are always ready to advise current and prospective businesses on where to find grants, loans and consulting services. They have assisted our governmental bodies in establishing development incentives which help foster and promote economic growth. Our local economic development corporations, in partnership with local businesses and governments, continue to drive economic prosperity for our area. Their efforts strengthen our ability to showcase this part of Iowa as a place to grow in a family friendly environment. Congratulations to K/PACEDC on your 20 and 10 year milestones."

**Ed Yorty**  
**President and CEO**  
**Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Companies**

"I would like to thank Maureen Elbert and her staff at Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development for all of their assistance with our expansion projects in Bancroft and Emmetsburg. K/PACEDC continues to move our area forward by retaining and expanding local businesses, along with educating our leaders on available programs that could enhance the quality of their businesses. These efforts strengthen our ability to showcase this part of Iowa as a place to grow in a family friendly environment. I would like to congratulate Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development on their 20 and 10 year anniversaries and for their effort and vision to provide business opportunities for Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties."

**Mike Lloyd**  
**President, Aluma**

"Both the staff and the board of directors at the Kossuth / Palo Alto Economic Development Corporations understand how the benefits and the strength of a combined and unified effort work towards sustaining and growing the economic value in our area. Kossuth/Palo Alto County Development Organizations will continue to work jointly to assist businesses and be a resource for the communities in our area. We continue to bring exciting and innovative initiatives to our counties. I am proud to be on the Board at KCEDC and look forward to working for the future of Kossuth County. I would like to congratulate the Kossuth / Palo Alto Economic Development Corporations on their 20 and 10 year milestones."

**Craig Deim**  
**KCEDC Past Board President**

"When looking at starting a new floral business, I worked with North Central Iowa Small Business Development Center and Kossuth County Economic Development Corporation. Maureen and her staff worked with me on the financial programs that would be available in Kossuth County. Their assistance made me realize that your business plan is a roadmap to success and as my business grew, so did my business plan. The availability to have the trained staff of KCEDC guide me through the Kossuth County Revolving Loan fund application process was very helpful and made the entire process more efficient. I would like to thank and congratulate K/PACEDC on their 20/10 milestone. Your professional assistance and support is very appreciated."

**Kelsey Thompson**  
**Bloom Floral**

"KCEDC assisted with the establishment of the Kossuth County Community Foundation and was part of the initial process to join the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa to become a community foundation for Kossuth County. KCEDC acquired the background information and submitted the application that was successfully approved to establish the Kossuth County Community Foundation."

**Blair Redenius**  
**Past Chair of the Kossuth County Community Foundation**

"Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corp. has had a direct bearing on two very successful industries in our immediate area. In my mind, there would not be an ethanol plant in Kossuth County if Maureen Elbert and KCEDC hadn't been involved to help the organizers get Midwest Grain Processors (MGP) off the ground. It is now owned by Great Plains Renewable Energy which has doubled to a 100 million gallon plant. Aluma, our local trailer manufacturer, is fully utilizing their facility and looking forward to another expansion project in 2016. Both of these could have been lost to other areas. Keep up the good work K/PACEDC and congratulations on your 20 and 10 year milestones!"

**Charlie Kennedy**  
**President of Farmers & Traders Savings Bank**

"I would like to commend Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation on their Intern Program. Attracting college students to work in local businesses is vital to the future of our area. Maureen Elbert and the K/PACEDC staff have shown leadership and dedication in working with the Career-Intern Committee in the development of the internship program. Smithfield Hog Production has been the recipient of having interns in the program for many years. I have also enjoyed assisting with the Resume Writing skill building class which has been very informative for the interns. All of the skill building sessions that are held for the Interns provide an excellent opportunity to improve their chances of employment."

**Rosalie Kain**  
**Smithfield Hog Production**

"One of the key ways that K/PACEDC has helped me is by forming the Human Resource Networking Group. The HR Group provides the opportunity for HR Professionals in both counties to network and receive education on relevant topics. We meet on a quarterly basis at various locations in the counties. Due to the cuts in Iowa Workforce Development, we no longer have ECI meetings in this area. The K/PACEDC HR Group is the only avenue that we have to connect with other HR Professionals in our local area. K/PACEDC provides a service to our group through organizing meetings, speakers, and hosting our group. They provide the communication and organizational tools that are vital to keep our group functioning. Our group would not exist if we did not have the organizational base that K/PACEDC provides."

**Diane Streit**  
**Max Yield Cooperative**

"Over 85 percent of Iowa Lakes graduates stay in our area and help power economic development. Our success is in part due to Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation working hand in hand with Iowa Lakes to develop new business and retain current industries within our region. Iowa Lakes Community College and Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development: Community Partners in Economic Development."

**Bob Jennings**  
**Iowa Lakes Comm. College District 7 Trustee**

"Being new into my position as City Director of Bancroft, I found that the K/PACEDC City Clerk Committee was a very necessary networking force to share concepts and it assisted me with getting acclimated to Iowa laws and resources. Maureen Elbert and her staff are very knowledgeable of various financial programs for business development projects and have assisted Bancroft with several development projects such as Aluma and Bancroft Cargo Express. The community of Bancroft is always in motion—always striving to be innovative with the resources available. K/PACEDC has always been eager and willing to guide and direct whatever path we are on at the time. I have really appreciated Maureen Elbert and her continuous encouragement and support. Thank you and congratulations on your 20 and 10 year anniversaries."

**Crysti Neuman**  
**City Director, City of Bancroft**

"Years ago, many of the City Clerks never met face to face until Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation established the City Clerks Networking Committee. This has been an excellent networking opportunity for the City Clerks in both counties. We have had educational speakers discuss topics such as Enterprise Zones, Capital Improvement Plans, Betterment of our Communities, Housing Programs and various financial incentives. When dealing with a new business or housing program, K/PACEDC assists our communities with focusing on the critical criteria that is required to finalize the development project. Congratulations to K/PACEDC on your many years of success."

**Linda Farrell**  
**City Clerk of Whittemore**

"Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development is a success story that all residents can be proud of. The list of accomplishments, including the Kossuth County Revolving Loan for Cargo Express, Bancroft Housing Enterprise Zone initiatives, marketing calendar of events and assistance with several Aluma expansions has positively impacted Bancroft. We greatly appreciate the momentum that our county is experiencing today. K/PACEDC is a critical piece in moving us forward and sustaining success in our region. Congratulations on your 10 and 20 year anniversaries."

**Alan Deitering**  
**Deitering Brothers, Inc.**

"The City of West Bend would like to congratulate Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation on their many years of service to assist communities within our counties. Being a Co-Chair of the City Clerks Committee, we have identified speakers and topics that we feel are good educational resources for our community needs. K/PACEDC has provided our communities with information pertaining to Local Option Sales Tax, Tax Increment Financing and Capital Improvement Plans. They have established the Kossuth and Palo Alto County Revolving Loan Funds, Community Calendar of Events and Home Base Iowa. K/PACEDC continues to create programs and marketing documents that assist with promoting our area. Congratulations on your 20 & 10 year milestones."

**Lisa Sewell**  
**City Clerk of West Bend**

"I have had the opportunity to speak at several events for Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation. It has always been a genuine pleasure to work with Maureen and her staff. Their team sets a wonderful example of professionalism and excellence in everything they do. As well, Maureen's active involvement in state-level economic development organizations shines an additional positive spotlight on our part of the state. Our counties benefit greatly as a result of Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development's exceptional work. Congratulations on your 20 and 10 year milestones, and thank you for all the valuable services you provide to our area."

**Brenda Clark-Hamilton**  
**Professional Growth Programs**

"Congratulations to Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation on your outstanding ability to provide so many professional services and marketing initiatives to our area. Maureen Elbert has nurtured and grown professional statewide relationships, which is so critical for acquiring the necessary resources for business recruitment and expansion. The growth of K/PACEDC and bringing necessary programs and partners to our area has had a positive impact on our economy. With the challenges that we face, K/PACEDC has successfully grown our business climate, with the ability to reach out to key partners to support in keeping our area sustainable. Thank you to K/PACEDC for the years of service and we look forward to your continued ability to lead our area with future growth."

**Jed Skogerboe**  
**Manager of Business and Community Development - Iowa Lakes Electric Coop**

"Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation continues to lead the way in the promotion of economic development in our area. It is evident of the growth that K/PACEDC has experienced over these past years. We need to continue moving forward by retaining and expanding our local businesses, along with educating our leaders on available programs that could enhance the quality of their businesses. These efforts strengthen our ability to showcase this part of Iowa as a place to grow in a family friendly environment. I would like to congratulate K/PACEDC on their 20 and 10 year anniversaries and for their effort and vision to provide business opportunities for Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties."

**Pat Berte**  
**Northwest Bank**

"I would like to congratulate The Kossuth/Palo Alto Economic Development Corporation on their milestone anniversaries of 10 and 20 years. The Quarterly Clerk Meetings have been a valuable resource for me to learn from the educational speakers and network with other area clerks. As a new City Clerk, the Kossuth/Palo Alto Economic Development Corporation has been a great resource for me and the Lakota Community. Congratulations on your milestones."

**Pamela Robb**  
**City Clerk of Lakota**



"I just wanted to let you know that I received your 2019 Economic Impact snapshot today. I truly recognize the amount of work that must have gone into this, and it certainly paints a picture of all the work your organization does. It's information like this that is beneficial and shows a return on investment."

**Troy Weary, Area Manager  
ITC Midwest**

"Economic Development is a large part of the mission for Iowa Lakes Community College and I really appreciate the responsiveness and collaboration that Maureen practices. It improves our ability to act quickly with the perfect solutions to strengthen business and industry. Maureen and her colleagues provide follow through to wrap up projects in a timely manner. I really appreciate Maureen's excellent communication and the fact they put key people together to facilitate discussions while matching resources available through the region."

**Valerie Newhouse, President  
Iowa Lakes Community College**

"Our relationship with Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation has stemmed over a course of time. Partnerships are critical to the sustainability of our area and for developing and nurturing growth. K/PACEDC has developed great marketing materials and programs that we, on a regional bases, would like to emulate such as their statistical documentation in their Economic Impact Report. Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development is a focused organization that understands the values of well-trained staff, professional development, and the importance of regionalism. We congratulate K/PACEDC on their 20 and 10 year milestones and support their vision for economic growth in our region."

**Jim Vermeer  
Corn Belt Power Cooperative**

"I had the opportunity to speak at the Kossuth-Palo Alto Economic Development Corporation's Career Intern Breakfast. These two county EDC's have created an outstanding internship program that serves area businesses and industries and prepares high school and college students for careers in the region. I was very impressed with the level of professional development opportunities built into the program. Thank you Maureen Elbert and staff for the invitation and for structuring such an excellent opportunity to students and employers in your region."

**Mark Nook  
President UNI**

"I wanted to send you a note to say thank you for hosting me at the Kossuth/Palo Alto Intern Luncheon. I had a wonderful time engaging with the students and hearing about their experiences. I also appreciated the opportunity to share some of my leadership insights. This is a great event, and I thank you for all that you do for these students to help them make connections, get the most out of their internships, and prepare for a successful future."

**Wendy Wintersteen  
President ISU**

"I just wanted to pass along my thanks and admiration to you and your team for the tremendous effort with the Synchronist program. The Best of Iowa and Synchronist Management Team reviewed Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties and you are almost all up to date!!! Your efforts are "STELLAR"!!! The Kossuth Palo Alto Economic Development organization is as current and up to date as any development organization in the state. You know how thorough and aggressive Marion County, Dubuque and Iowa City all are with their company list and visits. I would put you and your team in the same category and level of expertise...!!! Your efforts are helping your companies, communities and citizens of the region by finding "red flag issues" and opportunities for growth and expansion. Thank you for all that you do and thank you for doing it so well for your region and the State of Iowa. You are all leaders and I just wanted to pass along my appreciation to you and your Team for a great job done so well!!! Please keep up that great work."

**Bruce Hansen, V.P. of Business Development  
Iowa Area Development Group**

Our volunteers are the greatest testimony to the power of Kossuth County Economic Development Corporation. As you can see, the continued movement toward supporting economic development has been very strong. These hours were donated to help improve the business climate of Kossuth County. Many of these hours were from employees of local companies who sacrificed their own financial gain for the betterment of Kossuth County.

**Number of Hours Donated Annually  
For Special Events, Meetings, & Other  
Activities**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL HOURS</u>
2019	3,993
2018	4,509
2017	4,924
2016	5,065
2015	4,697
2014	4,503
2013	3,462
2012	5,614
2011	6,847
2010	5,650
2009	3,824
2008	4,512
2007	5,242
2006	6,912
2005	4,583



Visit us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn at [Kossuth-Palo Alto County Economic Development Corp](#) to view the latest events and highlights.

Kossuth / Palo Alto County Economic Development Corp.

Maureen Elbert, Executive Director

106 South Dodge Street Suite 210

Algona, IA 50511

Telephone: (515) 295-7979

Fax: (515) 295-8873

Email: [kcedc@kossuthia.com](mailto:kcedc@kossuthia.com)

Website: [www.kossuth-edc.com](http://www.kossuth-edc.com)

