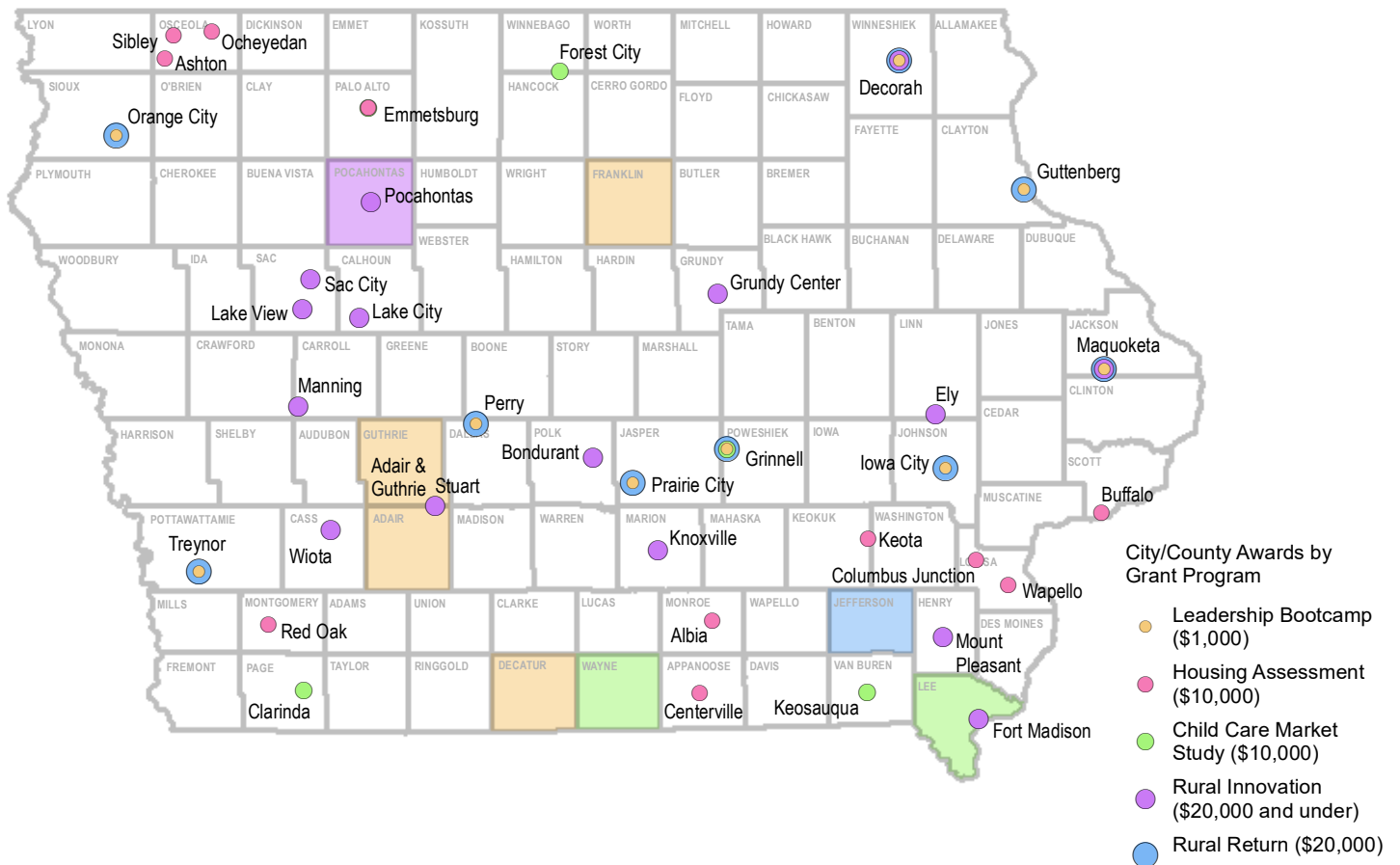


Empower Rural Iowa — FY 2022

In 2018, Governor Reynolds created the [Empower Rural Iowa \(ERI\)](#) initiative through Executive Order, organizing three task forces to study issues affecting Iowa’s rural economies and to make recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly. 2019 Iowa Acts, [House File 772](#) (Empower Rural Iowa Act), created incentives for the ERI initiative within the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) to support Iowa’s rural economies. The Center for Rural Revitalization, housed within the IEDA, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the ERI program. The ERI task forces formed under this program include the following:

- **Investing in Rural Iowa Task Force** — Rural housing shortage, derelict and dilapidated buildings, online business presence, business transition planning, and entrepreneurship.
- **Growing Rural Iowa Task Force** — Leadership development in rural communities, creating welcoming communities, and attracting and retaining residents or workers.
- **Connecting Rural Iowa Task Force** — Financing broadband connectivity, leveraging connectivity, and remote worker readiness.

Empower Rural Iowa Program Grants — FY 2022



The ERI grant programs are funded through Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund (SWJCF) appropriations to the IEDA. The grant program awards for FY 2022 include:

13 Leadership Bootcamp Grants \$13,000 in Funding	11 Housing Assessment Grants \$110,000 in Funding	7 Child Care Market Study Grants \$70,000 in Funding	15 Rural Innovation Grants \$245,620 in Funding	5 Rural Return Grants \$100,000 in Funding
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For more information on the ERI grant program, visit www.iowaeda.com/empower-rural-iowa/.