



UNI Economic Development Update

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UNI

University of Northern Iowa.
Business & Community Services



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BCS Impact Numbers 2023



3,953
clients
served



3,153
students
engaged



132
faculty & staff
involved in
delivery



Each **\$1**
provided by the
state is
leveraged with
\$5 in private
grants, fees or
federal funding



All 99
counties

Business & Community Services

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12 Programs

Areas of Focus

- Entrepreneurship / Small Business
- Community and Economic Development
- Metal Casting / Foundry 4.0
- Market Research
- Environmental Assistance / Sustainability

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Family businesses are the lifeblood of Iowa's economy

Family businesses face challenges

- Transition to the next generation
- Governance
- Lack communication about succession

Family businesses generate more than 64% of U.S. GDP and 78% of all new private-sector jobs.



**FAMILY
BUSINESS CENTER**

Local decisions. Local ownership. Global success.



The Conlons in front, Mike Conlon; in back, left to right, Tim Conlon and Steve Conlon.



“In order to keep a family business in business throughout hard times, the generations each have their own challenges to work through.”

Becky Conlon

*Vice President of Conlon Construction
Dubuque*

Family business support in FY24



- Worked with **180+** Iowa family businesses in all industries
- Third-Annual **Iowa Family Business Conference** at Ag Leader Technology
- 2 Staff Added
- Family Business Management **course launched**
- 32 facilitated **peer group events** attended by over 230 Iowa family business members
- Annual 5-part **speaker series** reached 227 Iowa family business members
- **New programming** launched for legacy planning, governance and board development



Some of our Iowa Family Businesses include



Local and regional development

Over 850 communities and organizations served

Organizational and community planning

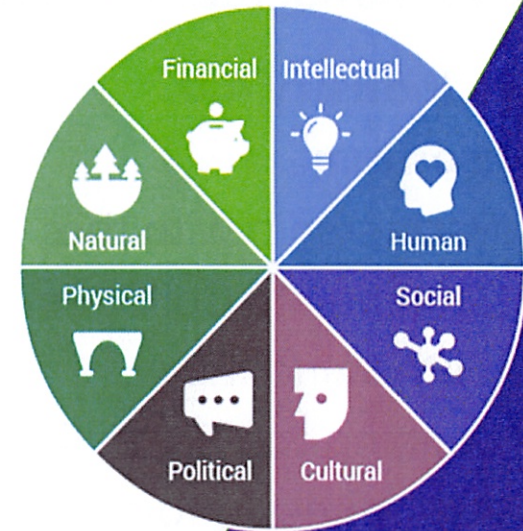
Rural development

- Majority of clients are rural communities/EDOs
- Governor's Empower Rural Iowa
- Iowa Rural Development Council
- Rural Vitality Coalition

Talent and workforce development



Iowa Comprehensive Rural Wealth Framework



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Local and regional development

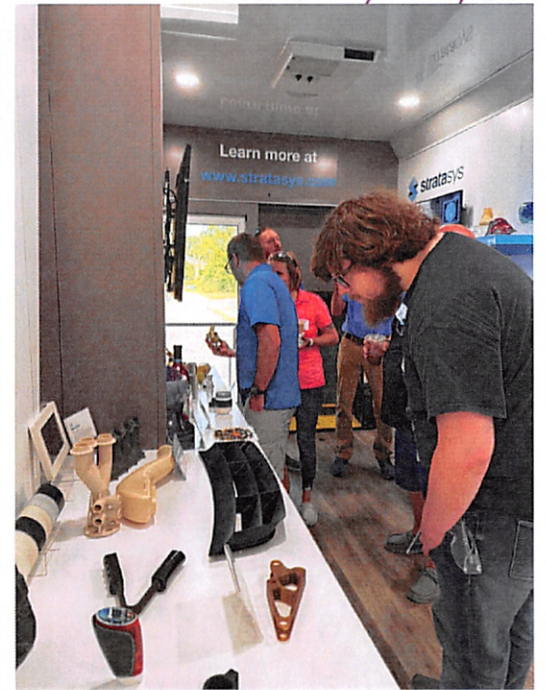
Industry / Manufacturing 4.0

- Iowa Industry 4.0 Consortium

- Partnership with the Community Colleges, CIRAS and IEDA
- Leading the Education & Awareness efforts



Cobot Automation Summits with the Iowa Association of Business & Industry



3D Printing Expo

Foundry 4.0

Full transition to 4.0 technologies

- Automation
- Sensors / IoT
- Digital Twin
- Investment Casting
- Partnering with Hawkeye CC for automation and robotics



University of Northern Iowa
Foundry 4.0 Center

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A good investment for Iowa

Leverage public investment
Statewide coverage
Small and medium businesses
Partnerships
Innovations
Linking with local and regional
development



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