



ENVISION

GREATER FOND DU LAC

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION:

***We inspire our community to work
in partnership and cultivate a
vibrant economic future.***

2018

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Our first full calendar year as Envision Greater Fond du Lac was an exciting, foundational year for this new organization with a mission to transform our community's economic future. Our program areas carried our new mission to stakeholders across the county and beyond, and we saw strong economic development project activity. We could not be prouder of what was accomplished in 2018 and how we have poised the community for further success and growth through key partnerships and the support of our Chamber members, economic development investors, and the greater community.

FROM OUR 2018 BOARD CHAIR: HOLLY BRENNER



On behalf of the Envision Greater Fond du Lac board of directors, I am pleased to share with you, through this annual report, highlights of our 2018 successes and a preview of our strategic direction for 2019 and beyond.

Our future is bright, as we continue to collaborate and advance our community and the regional economy together. For example, the Greater Fond du Lac region was identified as one of our state's top three metro markets for job growth in 2018. This ranking signals our community is primed for additional growth!

Progress like this can only be achieved when a community steps forward together. Many thanks to more than 200 stakeholders who have provided input and volunteerism to our future strategy and current programming. Based on your feedback, we have exciting new plans to support our business community through Chamber membership and economic development efforts. We look forward to sharing more detail and engaging all of you in the weeks, months and years to come.

My deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to our nearly 700 Chamber members and economic development investors. Thank you for partnering with Envision Greater Fond du Lac and for allowing us to serve you!

2019-2021 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

As we work to awaken greater economic opportunity, our leadership has identified **nine strategic priorities** within three themes that will drive our efforts.



For more information on these strategic priorities and our progress in each of these areas, please visit:

www.envisiongreaterfdl.com/strategic-plan

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



In 2018, our team successfully landed **five projects** that will create **128 full-time equivalent jobs (FTEs)**, and **\$4.7 million in annual payroll**.

We worked directly with client partners, including: The New North, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, site selection consultants, and real estate professionals throughout Wisconsin.

\$29,400,000

in capital investment during 2018 that will be recognized throughout Fond du Lac County through our economic development efforts.

44 | 21

At the conclusion of 2018, we had 44 leads and 21 active projects in our prospect pipeline, with a potential to yield 620 full-time jobs and \$217 million in capital investment.

Our team proactively called on **40 existing businesses** in 2018 to identify opportunities for growth, navigate challenges, and better understand our diverse employment base.

Our business intelligence services were well utilized in 2018 with 11 clients contracting with our organization on **15 research projects**.



We collaborated with the Fond du Lac Area Foundation and Fond du Lac Area United Way to develop **L.I.F.E. Fond du Lac County**, a new data tool to understand our community's well-being in reference to comparative communities. **See the tool at: www.lifefdlc.com**

For additional information on Economic Development successes from 2018, visit:

www.envisiongreaterfdl.com/news/ED2018

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



During the 2017-2018 school year, over **3,650 students** were exposed to viable, community-changing career paths through our suite of workforce programming! Whether through Career Connections Academy, Lemonade Day, Project G.R.I.L.L., Youth Apprenticeship, Hiring Expo, or other programs, these interactions exposed students to careers available right here in the greater Fond du Lac community.



We welcomed Dakota Pawlicki of the **Lumina Foundation**, a national thought leader on workforce issues who commended our community for supporting best-in-class workforce programming through this organization. His presentation helped illustrate the importance of post-secondary credentials to quantify the true skill sets in our workforce available to current and future employers.

196

companies and organizations participated in workforce programming.

47,250

hours worked by Youth Apprenticeship students for local businesses.



9

school systems

Our workforce educational programming reaches 9 area school systems in our consortium:

Campbellsport School District, Fond du Lac School District, Green Lake School District, Lomira School District, North Fond du Lac School District, Oakfield School District, Rosendale-Brandon

School District, St. Mary's Springs Academy, and Winnebago Lutheran Academy.

For additional information on Workforce Development successes from 2018, visit:

www.envisiongreaterfdl.com/news/Workforce2018

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

623
total members

The Chamber family at Envision Greater Fond du Lac is **623 members** strong with **43 new members** in 2018.

We always have room for more businesses to join the community and our membership!

43
new members

For a full listing of our **Chamber members**, please visit:
www.envisiongreaterfdl.com

700 cups of coffee served at Coffee Connections during 2018. These networking events foster camaraderie while allowing members to increase awareness of their organization within the business community.



The **Leadership Fond du Lac** Class of 2018 completed **four community projects** including: recycling containers in city parks, construction of a memorial garden for fallen law enforcement officers, implementation of a kayak launch, and free libraries on Fond du Lac city buses.

\$495,611

in Chamber Gift Certificates were sold in 2018. These certificates are redeemable only at member businesses, directly benefiting our local economy.

187,477

job views on fdlworks.com during 2018. This is an exclusive no-cost benefit for Chamber members to build their talent pipeline.



For additional information on Chamber successes from 2018, please visit:
www.envisiongreaterfdl.com/news/Chamber2018

SPECIALIZED ENGAGEMENT

Envision Greater Fond du Lac supported **40 entrepreneurs** in various stages of business development to strengthen their concepts and prepare for success. The **IGNITE! Business Success Network**, the collaborative entrepreneurial support network of Greater Fond du Lac, welcomed its 18th partner, Green Lake Renewal.

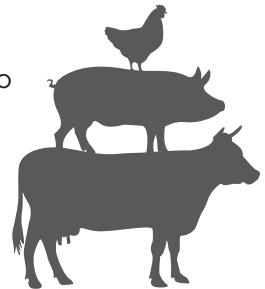


The **Ag Ambassador program** educated over **13,000 area students** on the importance and wonders of agriculture, our largest industry sector, through its Ag in the Classroom program during the 2017-2018 school year.



The **Young Professionals of Fond du Lac** continue to be a very important group in our community. In fact, the strength and reach of YPF is the envy of other communities across the state and country! With nearly 300 individuals attending at least one of YPF's 36 events in 2018, there's no denying this group is thriving and of great value to its membership and the business community.

The **Agri-Business Council** had another successful, fun year of programming that demonstrated the importance of agriculture to children, families, and the greater community. Two of the Agri-Business Council's signature events, the **Ag Showcase** and **Breakfast on the Farm**, reminded **5,500 people** of all the agriculture-related firms that impact our daily lives and regional economy.



For more information on all of our program area successes from 2018, please visit:
www.envisiongreaterfdl.com/news/2018Wins

2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Holly Brenner, Agnesian HealthCare, member of SSM Health

Vice Chair: Paul Reetz, Integrity Saw & Tool

Past Chair: Jim Eden, Moraine Park Technical College

Past Chair: Tom Schneider, Silica For Your Home

Treasurer: Ryan Kamphuis, Bristol Morgan Bank

Secretary: Jim Jarvis, J.F. Ahern Co.

Jim Spannbauer, Mid-States Aluminum Corporation

Cecilia Harry, Envision Greater Fond du Lac

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Berg, Summit Automotive

Allen Buechel, Fond du Lac County

Stephan Cloutier, Mercury Marine

Mark Diederichs, Lake Breeze Dairy, LLC

Martin Farrell, Fond du Lac County

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Todd Huempfer, ACH Foam Technologies

Mike Krolczyk, C.D. Smith Construction, Inc.

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Joe Moore, City of Fond du Lac

Troy Rademann, Bomier Properties Inc.

Kathy Schlieve, City of Waupun

James Sebert, Fond du Lac School District



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