

## -CONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **2019 HIGHLIGHTS**

## **ATTRACTION & RETENTION**

- Throughout 2019, the economic development team has been working on 38 active leads and projects with a total capital investment potential of \$66,189,000. These projects have a total payroll potential of \$35,484,000.
- Year to date, we have **7 landed projects** resulting in **127 new jobs** with an annual payroll of nearly \$2.8 million and a total capital investment of more than \$3 million.
- We proactively reached out to **35 county businesses** to build relationships and provide support, leading to two new expansion projects.
- A newly created loan fund has been established to provide critical gap financing to businesses on the Dodge County side of the City of Waupun.

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION**

- Envision Greater Fond du Lac continues to serve as the hub organization of the multi-partner IGNITE! Business Success Network. Of the **50+ entrepreneurs** that connected with the network over the past year, Envision Greater Fond du Lac served in the role of coach for **30 clients** resulting in one new business.
- Students from the Greater Fond du Lac area participated in the 4th Annual Youth

Idea Challenge. Three teams won scholarship prizes based on their creative solutions to startup challenges.



## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

- The 11th Annual Project G.R.I.L.L. engaged 124 high school student participants. Of the students involved, 67% indicated they plan to pursue a career in manufacturing or skilled trades.
- The brand new Summer Series engaged 120 interns from seven companies, resulting in a **40% increase** in positive perceptions of the Greater Fond du Lac area.
- The new Business and Education Mixer event engaged 82 area education and business
  - representatives to form meaningful connections for future collaborations.



• Over 2,300 7th and 8th grade students participated in Career Connections Academy, one of Wisconsin's largest hands-on career expos.