

BOARD MEMBERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Executive Committee

Chair: Paul Reetz, Integrity Saw and Tool Inc.

Vice Chair: Jim Jarvis, J.F. Ahern Co.

Treasurer: Jim Eden, Moraine Park Technical College

Secretary: Tom Schneider, Silica For Your Home,
Holly Brenner, Agnesian HealthCare, a member of SSM Health
Jeff Liddicoat, Horicon Bank
Jim Spannbaauer, Mid-States Aluminum Corporation

Board Members

Bob Benzinger, National Exchange Bank & Trust

Mike Berg, Summit Automotive

Allen Buechel, Fond du Lac County

John Buelow, Mercury Marine

Mark Diederichs, Lake Breeze Dairy, LLC

Martin Farrell, Fond du Lac County

Rick Froh, Grande Cheese

Katie Grinstead, Vir-Clar Farms

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

Sam McClone, McClone

Joe Moore, City of Fond du Lac

Troy Rademann, Bomier Properties Inc.

Kathy Schlieve, City of Waupun

Jim Sebert, Fond du Lac School District



GREATER.
PROGRESS • PARTNERSHIPS • FUTURE



2019 Annual Report

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FROM OUR 2019 BOARD CHAIR: PAUL REETZ



For the Envision Greater Fond du Lac Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to provide you with information and success stories from 2019 and a futuristic look at 2020 and beyond.

2019 was our second full calendar year of being EGFDL and we saw a lot of growth and opportunities in our Greater Fond du Lac footprint. We were

able to recognize and support the great job done by some of our local business partners, and you'll read more about some of them in the pages that follow. We also saw the continuation of strong programs and the introduction of new, revitalized ones that set up our future leaders for success. The year was truly one of unique problem-solving and listening to our stakeholders on what they needed most.

We can't turn a blind eye to the challenges we faced as well.

With transition comes new opportunity and the organization is working hard each and every day to continue to keep up with its great, vast programming while looking to the future on what it needs to thrive. While we are continuing to move through these coming months, it will be crucial to continue supporting the staff and volunteers in their endeavors. Because of that, I am always willing to listen to your ideas.

Thank you for allowing me to work with all of you valued chamber and economic development supporters. We are ready to work with you again in 2020 and every year to come!

New Members

11:11 Burgers & Beignets
Aquire Restoration, Inc.
American Family Insurance -
Brad Tagliapietra
Bankers Advertising Co.
BE's Refreshments
Blandine House Inc.
Blue Door Coffee Co.
Brick House LLC
Brookens Construction LLC
Community Living Connections, Inc.
Computer Troubleshooters of
Lomira, LLC
Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
DBA Marketing Communications LLC
Dean Health Plan
Fanna's Market & Eatery
Farmers Insurance
FDL Area Women's Fund, Inc.
Feucht Financial Group, LLC
Green Lake School District
HempWorks Wisconsin LLC
Honey and Sage Healing Acupuncture

HT Enterprises Inc.
Independent Printing Co. Inc.
KKrug Gentlemen Haircuts
Lezama's Hair Lounge
Lily Pad Learning
Magic Car Wash
Maplewood Commons
Midwest Dental
Midwest Overhead Door, Inc.
Minuteman Press
NorthCentral Construction
Rawhide, Inc.
Renaissance Salon LLC
River Hills Apartments
Saputo Cheese USA
STgenetics
TNT Fitness Results, LLC
Van Horn Ford of Lomira
Vines & Rushes Winery
Vir-Clar Farms
Wenger Construction Inc.
Ziegler Winery LLC
Zook Tax & Accounting LLC

2019 RECOGNITION

Business/Community Excellence Awards:

Hierl Insurance &
LaClare Family Creamery

Eden-Schneider Award:

Treffert Way for the
Exceptional Mind

Lifetime Achievement Award:

John E. Ahern Jr.

Volunteer of the Year Award:

Jamie Cleland

Donald G. Jones Leadership Alumni Award:

Karyn Merkel

YFP Future 5 Awards:

Shawn Fisher, Jessica Kimball,
Vicente Lezama (YP of the Year),
Craig Much, JJ Raflik

Safety Performance Awards:

Gold: Alliance Laundry Systems,
J.F. Ahern Company,
Shea Electric & Communications
Silver: Marchant Schmidt Inc. and
W.W. Electric Motors

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORTING BUSINESS GROWTH & INSIGHT.

\$3M+
CAPITAL INVESTMENT

In 2019, eight successful projects resulting in 131 jobs created/retained in Fond du Lac County. Total capital investment of \$3,053,000 from these projects will be recognized throughout Fond du Lac County because of our economic development efforts.

Innovation Highlights

During 2019, our team launched new resources and educational programming as part of ongoing efforts to promote the many advantages of doing business in the Greater Fond du Lac area.

Global Business Perspective

Envision Greater Fond du Lac partnered with economic development organizations throughout Northeast Wisconsin to host the Northeast Wisconsin International Trade Conference addressing important topics such as tariffs and exporting.

Digital Transformation

A proactive look at how digital transformation will affect our businesses and workforce in the years to come through an educational presentation hosted in partnership with Moraine Park Technical College.

First Annual Economic Forecast Breakfast

Provided an opportunity for area businesses to learn about forecasted economic trends so they can be better educated in making important business decisions. Attendees also learned about local expansion resources helping businesses grow right here in our communities.

STATE OF THE ECONOMY:

An Economic Forecast Event

A panel discussion kicked off the first State of the Economy economic forecast event. As part of this panel, representatives of local government, regional economic development, and small business spoke to the climate of business in the I-41 Corridor area, the resources in place for businesses to flourish and grow, and the successes had through these tools. Legacy Express (represented by owner Jeff O'Brien) credits the tools provided through Fond du Lac County sales tax incentives for as part of the fast growth of his company.

From left to right: Cecilia Harry, Envision Greater Fond du Lac; Jeff O'Brien, Legacy Express; Allen Buechel, Fond du Lac County; Barb LaMue, New North Inc.



COACHING SUPPORT FOR 48 ENTREPRENEURS / BUSINESS IDEAS

Through our collaborative partnership with the IGNITE! Business Success Network.



COMPLETED 40 BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION (BRE) VISITS

Identifying opportunities for growth and navigating challenges to yield 620 full-time jobs and \$217 million in capital investments.



COST OF LIVING INDEX 3.3% BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

Each quarter our team is involved in collecting this data as a measurement for Fond du Lac County.



DEVELOPED PRO-BUSINESS REGIONAL PROFILE PITCHING GREATER FOND DU LAC COMMUNITY

To be more competitive & positively position our community for site selectors & prospective businesses throughout the United States.

FOCUS ON TOMORROW'S LEADERS WITH IMPACT TODAY.

141

**STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED IN
PROJECT GRILL
SETS NEW RECORD**



Workforce + Educational Programming Highlights

In 2019, our workforce and educational programming continued to see strong participation from the school consortium. Our school consortium includes the districts of: Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Lomira, North Fond du Lac, Oakfield, Rosendale-Brandon, St. Mary's Springs Academy and Winnebago Lutheran Academy.

Project G.R.I.L.L.

A new record with 141 students participating in the program. Participating manufacturers continue to find value in the program through inspiring students to pursue careers in manufacturing and finding their future workforce.

High School Hiring Expo

The 2nd Annual High School Hiring Expo aligned local high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors with area employers looking for summer or permanent employees. More than 50 area employers participated in the expo held at Fond du Lac High School.

Kondex Corporation/ Project G.R.I.L.L.

Project G.R.I.L.L. is an excellent way to introduce students in our area to manufacturing – and we've witnessed the impact goes beyond fabrication skills. While production is certainly a focal point, critical support roles, such as design, procurement, managing budgets, and sales are included to model all aspects of manufacturing. But the main traits that are instilled, and highly valued as an employer, are teamwork and leadership.



Kondex team member, Joshua Harbin, pictured with president, Keith Johnson. Josh was a Project Grill graduate in 2009 and has been with Kondex since 2015.



82% ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2019 CAREER CONNECTIONS ACADEMY

From all 7th and 8th grade students in Fond du Lac County.



POSITIVE PERCEPTIONS OF FOND DU LAC COUNTY INCREASED BY 40%

For interns following completion of the Summer Series.



100 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN YOUTH APPRENTICESHIPS

During the 2018-19 school year and earned a credential from the State of Wisconsin upon successful completion.



LEMONADE DAY CELEBRATED 5TH YEAR IN THE FOND DU LAC AREA

Where students pitch their business ideas in hopes of receiving a 'Lemon Loan' to cover the startup costs of their business.

CONNECTIONS + POSSIBILITIES

597
MEMBERS



NEW 44
NEW MEMBERS

19
COFFEE
CONNECTIONS



Our Greater Fond du Lac Chamber community is 597 members strong, 44 of which we welcomed during 2019! This year, we continued to offer various opportunities for member businesses to engage, including 19 business and coffee connection networking events, in addition to value-added membership benefits such as job postings, affiliate discount programs and our gift certificate program.

Leading Through People and Processes

In July 2019, we launched a new program offering in partnership with Moraine Park Technical College, Leading Through People and Processes, which is designed to build the skill set of new supervisors and those with limited experience. This 6-month series curriculum covers major topics and strategies in team leadership.

<https://www.envisiongreaterfdl.com/leading-people-and-processes/>

CHRIS WARD, GENERAL MANAGER

Fond du Lac Docks Spiders



Being a member of Envision Greater Fond du Lac has been extremely valuable. When we started up in 2017, Envision opened the door to the Fond du Lac community – playing a key role in helping us get to know and be involved in the community. Not only did it help our organization grow, but it also helped me grow as a young professional. This was made possible through all its' programs, and especially Young Professionals of Fond du Lac.



**564 VOLUNTEERS GIVE
THEIR TIME, TALENT AND
RESOURCES**

To assist in building and executing successful programming.



**\$435,696 OF CHAMBER
GIFT CERTIFICATES SOLD
IN 2019**

These dollars directly benefit our local economy.



**215 FEET OF RIBBON
UTILIZED AT RIBBON
CUTTINGS DURING 2019**

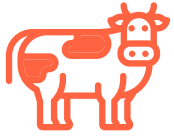
To celebrate new businesses and various member milestones.



**FACEBOOK POSTS HAD
MORE THAN 175,830 VIEWS**

Further creating awareness of the businesses and amenities within the Greater Fond du Lac area.

SPECIALIZED ENGAGEMENT



AGRI-BUSINESS COUNCIL

A life-sized cow introduced to the Children's Museum as an interactive exhibit to get kids excited about agriculture careers.



FOND DU LAC SHRM

Offered 126 total hours of continuing education credit hours to HR professionals, arming them with the latest information in industry trends and best practices in HR.



SAFETY COUNCIL

Members of 20+ local companies engaged in meaningful conversations about workforce safety through the new "Safety Coffee Talk" series.



FOND DU LAC MARKETING PROFESSIONALS

Evolved programming & social media presence to be driven by area marketing professionals & expand reach.

LEADERSHIP FOND DU LAC

2018-19 class created new community-based programming and beautification progress, including a sensory friendly program with the Children's Museum, a mural in the Portland Street parking ramp, and the Archer Thomas Olsen Trail in Lakeside Park West.



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF FOND DU LAC

86 hours of programming offered to assist in recruiting and retaining young professionals in the Greater Fond du Lac area.

2019-2021 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

As we work to awaken greater economic opportunities, 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