

2023 GROWING OPPORTUNITIES Year-End Report



HOUSING HIGHLIGHTS 2023

to a subsidiary of Bonnavilla that will be

PCDC received a \$600,000 grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to support infrastructure for Northern Meadows subdivision and \$300,000 in matching funds.

Phelps County also faced an economic development setback that is an unfortunate reality, the closure of BD's remaining production operations. Two years ago, BD transitioned its insulin operations to a new company, embecta, and had been Artistic Woven Labels building (BLDG 2). Unfortunately, corporate decision makers reversed course leading to a layoff of 107 people. PCDC quickly mobilized a Rapid Response Team and assisted in the transition process. About 50 people remain in the BD operation to operate the sterilization operation and a related microbiology lab. PCDC is working with BD corporate to determine a long-term future for BLDG 2.

We're engaged daily with local opportunities. Growth is our goal. PCDC's board of directors support our business recruitment strategy that emphasizes a targeted approach; businesses scaled appropriately and that fit our resource base.

This year PCDC is pleased to have

Housing creation is a headline for 2023. Six new single-family homes were constructed in Crew Subdivision, and predevelopment was advanced for the new 30-unit Northern Meadows subdivision east of the former Shopko and next to the new ballfield complex. PCDC also sold two lots home to duplex style townhouses as part of a six-lot agreement. Together, all of the PCDC housing programs will create more than 50 new living units over the next three years. In 2024, PCDC will emphasize in-fill and renovation of existing properties.

housing in Bertrand, PCDC and Bertrand Community Builders partnered to provide

developing an expansion plan for the former

businesses to generate investment and new

Ron Tillery, Executive Director



helped establish several new businesses including Southpaw Dog Academy in Holdrege and Sims' Shop E-Z in Loomis, and to assist a legacy retailer, Abramson's Appliance, transition to new ownership. Homegrown businesses are the backbone of our economy

Sales tax receipts into the LB840 Economic Development Plan accounts are tracking well ahead of budget and last year's activity. Funds contributed by the more than 100 investors in PCDC are also tracking ahead of projections. The organization is on solid financial footing.

Despite the length of this retrospective, it touches only a fraction of our activities and the county's accomplishments. Holdrege and Phelps County are in a strong competitive position, maybe the strongest in recent times, and our continued success. while not assured, can be accomplished through our best efforts.

I'm confident in this market's resiliency and its ability to achieve epic things. #PhelpsHelps #Grow37 #GrowPhelps



MISSION

Working together to grow a vibrant economy.

VISION

Phelps County is THE place where free enterprise and families flourish.

VALUES

We will be RESPONSIVE.

We will operate with HONESTY & INTEGRITY.

We will be of SERVICE to our communities.

We will think and act STRATEGICALLY.

We will conduct ourselves PROFESSIONALLY.



2023 IMPACT

HOUSING

- PCDC received a \$600,000 Rural Workforce Housing grant to help build 30 homes in Northern Meadows subdivision in Holdrege and three new homes in Bertrand.
- Bertrand Housing Authority broke ground on a five-plex apartment complex aided by a forgivable loan from PCDC.
- CREW Subdivision: Six new homes completed by Heritage Homes Two lots sold to Bonnavilla Homes to build two duplexes.
- Assisted King Investments with renovation of Eastside Plaza 18 new mobile homes added.



STRATEGIC PLANNING, MARKET RESEARCH & BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE MEETINGS

- Nearly two-dozen Business Intelligence calls by PCDC staff provided valuable market data that helps guide business retention and recruitment activity.
- With financial assistance from Phelps County, engineering and construction plans were completed for Iron Horse Business & Industry Park and approved by State of Nebraska.
- The Retail Coach, a nationally recognized consulting firm, was engaged to recruit and develop new retail opportunities.

BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION

- Awarded seven GO! DREAM grants Shop EZ, Loomis Bricks & Company, Holdrege The Drawer, Holdrege Mammoth Burger, Holdrege Blessed Trio, Holdrege Crossroads Mission, Holdrege Rodeway Inn, Holdrege
- Assisted Abramson Appliance business transition with a gap-financing loan; business and franchise grants for working capital and improvements, and other programs
- Assisted Southpaw Dog Academy & Boarding
- Awarded 19 Digital Development Grants
- Assisted Mammoth Burger to open in The Dale Residences
- The Dale Residences opening soon with at least 20 new apartments
- Assisted Wayward Foods LLC with launching a new pizza operation at Lost Way Brewery in Holdrege by providing GO! Business grants



#PHELPS

BRANDING, MARKETING & PUBLICITY

- PCDC Business Journal distributed guarterly.
- Launched redesigned website with enhanced images and video.
- Conducted PCDC Annual Meeting on Feb. 28 with the theme Brick by Brick.
- President's Priceless Pick Awarded to Holdrege resident Sherry McClymont for her work to beautify the community and spearhead the Midtown Sculpture Garden.
- PCDC Executive Director Ron Tillery honored as the Professional Economic Developer of the Year in the community category at the Nebraska Economic Developers Association meeting.
- Nebraskaland Aviation and Pretty & Fabulous inducted into the PCDC Business Hall of Fame at fall community banquet. Gov. Jim Pillen gave the keynote address.



TARGETED RECRUITMENT

- Opened 22 new recruitment or expansion project files (three carried over from 2022). Currently, 13 of those projects remain active; six of the 13 projects are in various stages of preparation or development where PCDC is a finalist or has been selected.
- Community Venture Network, PCDC's business recruitment service, has helped identify two projects actively working with us to develop projects in Holdrege.
- PCDC is working with GenPro Solar to develop a 2.5 MW facility at Iron Horse on undevelopable land that is projected to cost \$4.5 million. An application for a grant from the USDA PACE program will provide supplemental funding for construction costs. Net revenues from the sale of energy will supplement PCDC's development efforts in Phelps County.
- Ron Tillery attended the IPPE food processing show in Atlanta and the ICSC conference in Las Vegas to meet with commodity processors and retailers to promote Phelps County as a potential site for future developments.
- Retail Coach has regular contact with Noddle Companies, the Omaha owner of Holdrege Plaza. Contacts made at conferences are coordinated with Noddle and other property owners.

\$30,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS **AWARDED TO** 10 STUDENTS





Alexis Billeter

Sierra Burrows





McCartney Elliott

Jersie Hermanson



Kaeley Klein

Bryce Philips



Anna Pelton



Kazia Nelson



Hanna Swearingen



Reece Vinzant

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT



GO! HOME

HOME DOWNPAYMENT GRANTS

36 New Residents in 2023

267 new Residents since 2017

\$1.970.473

value of homes purchased in 2023

\$17,716,273

value of homes purchased since 2017

RENTAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

5 New Residents in 2023

99 New Residents since 2017

HOUSING GRANT RECEIVED

\$600,000

Rural Workforce Housing Grant for two Phelps County projects

\$400,000

to be invested in Northern Meadows infrastructure

\$200,000

to be invested in Bertrand housing renovations



GO! DREAM

\$22,798

Invested in seven projects generating private investment of \$708,440

\$471.567

Invested since 2017 in 54 projects, generating \$3,466,567 in private investment

\$79,767 in Grants

Awarded for Business Development, Transition Assistance and Digital Marketing

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



10 Students awarded a share of \$30,000 in High-Demand Jobs Scholarships \$267,500 has been awarded over 10 years of the program



14 Students in Auto Technician Dual-Credit Training Program in partnership with Central Community College, Holdrege Public Schools & Janssen Auto



8 Students in Nursing Assistant Dual-Credit Program in partnership with Phelps Memorial Health Center, Central Community College & Holdrege Public Schools

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS & QUALITY OF LIFE

\$75.000

Granted to New Holdrege Ballfield Complex in 2023 (\$1 million total commitment)

Support of Holdrege Veterans Memorial & Midtown Sculpture Garden

PCDC TEAM

STAFF (RIGHT): Stacy Pafford, Director of Administrative Services; Sally Sadd, Director of Business Services; Ron Tillery, Executive Director

BOARD (BELOW): Left to Right, Nate DeWald, Jeff Moon, Janet Boehler, Reed McClymont, Phil Hinrichs, Shane Westcott (president), Grant Ericksen, Jared Engelbert, Chris McQuillan, Allison Fritsche, Doug Stevenson and Grant Hinze





PCDC INVESTORS

3 W Farms LLC 37 Cattle Company ACE Hardware Adam Seeds Co. Ag Service Associates **AgWest Commodities** AP Roofing & Specialty Coatings Brad & Beth Allmand BD Construction/Syberia Enterprises LLC Becton Dickinson-Holdrege Bergman Ag, Inc. Black Hills Energy Bosselman's Energy Division Bridal Isle Bruce Furniture Bruning Bank Central Community College-Holdrege Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District Christian Homes Care Community City of Holdrege Convenience Plus Country Road Realty

Cross Diamond Cattle Company

Dannull Engine Service & Auto Sales

Dairy Queen

Law Firm PC LLO Fred Diedrichsen **Edward Jones Investments** Jared & McKenzie Engelbert F. Johnson Building Family Medical Specialties Farm Bureau Financial Services First Interstate Bank First State Bank of Holdrege First State Bank of Loomis FirsTier Bank General Service Agency Glenwood Telecommunications Grant Hinze, DDS Heritage Agency Scott & Michele High High Brothers Partnership Hi-Line Aq Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce Holdrege Equipment Holdrege Family Dental LLC Holdrege Family Vision Holdrege Irrigation Holdrege Memorial Homes Holdrege Pharmacy Holdrege Soft Water

DeWald Deaver L'Heureux

InSPIRe Rehabilitation Integrity Construction LLC Janssen Auto Group K & D Motor & Electric Keith D. Samuelson Land Leveling Inc. Mark & Jessica Kraus **KRJ Public Relations** Legacy Purpose, LLC Lincoln Federal Savings Bank of Nebraska LIPS Printing Service Lundeen Isaacson Insurance Alex & Adrienne McClymont Reed & Sheryl McClymont Sherry McClymont Morpho Hotels and Resorts USA LLC My Fair Lady's Fashions and Frills NAS Realty Nebraska Public Power District Nebraskaland Aviation Olsson Phelps County Phelps County Community Foundation Phelps County Title Company Phelps Memorial Health Center

Home Federal Bank

Pioneer Seed Company, Blake & Renee Johnson Principal Financial Group, Grant Ericksen Principal Financial Group, Dave Hunt Principal Financial Group, Joshua Murdoch Wayne & Jerrie Quincy Real Estate Connection ruralMED S & W Auto Parts South Central Diesel. Inc. Southern Public Power District State Farm Ty & Linda Swan The 308 Boutique The Cutting Room Ron Tillery Ted & Afton Titus Trent's Electric. Inc. Tri City Auto Parts Turner Technology Village of Atlanta Village of Bertrand Village of Funk Village of Loomis Diana Watson Jim & Ann Wiser Woods & Durham CPAs

