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BLAEDC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	<u>2018 Accomplishments</u>	<u>Total Program Accomplishments</u>
BLAEDC Organization 1987-2018	15 Projects \$13.08 Million in Capital Investments 119 Jobs Created, 93 Jobs Retained	446 Projects \$707.06 Million in Capital Investments 5,013 Jobs Created
KEY Recruitment Program 2016-2018	13 Hires 12 Spousal Referrals 28 New People to the Area	24 Hires 12 Spousal Referrals 50 New People to the Area
BLAEDC Unified Fund 2016-2018	6 Projects \$5.14 Million Total Project Investment \$532,126 Total BUF Financing 31 Jobs Created, 35 Jobs Retained	7 Projects \$5.27 Million Total Project Investment \$556,626 Total BUF Financing 34 Jobs Created, 37 Jobs Retained



THE BLAEDC TEAM

Sheila Haverkamp, Executive Director

Mike Bjerkness, Workforce Director

Tyler Glynn, Economic Development Officer

Chelby Rediske, Marketing Coordinator

Megan Rehbein, Office Administrator



BLAEDC and CREDI have formed a strong partnership and work together to support economic development in Crow Wing County. Shared staff between the two organizations provide efficiencies and expertise throughout the region.

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Brainerd Lakes Area
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Corporation



BLAEDC 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Together...we are stronger.

The Brainerd Lakes Area Economic Development Corporation (BLAEDC) has an overall mission to **Expand Business, Build Community, and Grow Jobs in Crow Wing County.**

From the Cuyuna Area to our Lake Country, to Baxter and Brainerd, we have had significant economic growth this past year and can celebrate working together to make each of our communities stronger. BLAEDC has helped lead -- or been a strategic partner -- in multiple economic development efforts. We encouraged and supported private sector investments, assisted with gap financing, were instrumental in filling key positions to help companies grow, and supported multiple community development initiatives. We would like to highlight three of our growing economic development strategies this year.



A nearly \$3 million dollar pool of funds is now available to support business growth in our communities. The numbers are astounding with loans totaling more than half-a-million dollars with an average loan of \$88,500, and 66 jobs created or retained in only one year! Due to our success, BLAEDC has received inquiries from communities all across the state to help them implement similar programs. We are proud to be a partner in making our communities stronger together!



We are receiving national recognition for our creativity in helping to solve the workforce issues of our local companies. Our program has developed into a multi-prong approach to meet hiring needs including:

- Key Recruitment – We develop and implement attraction strategies to bring your company certain skill sets and management expertise
- Talent Marketing and Spousal Placement – We connect and network individual talent
- Consulting Expertise – We join hiring teams to help select talent
- Educational Presentations – We provide workforce insights to help plan for the future



BLAEDC EXEC Bruce Buxton is weaving together the numerous initiatives occurring in downtown Brainerd and building upon them. This past year has been exciting for energizing downtown. The City of Brainerd started a farmer's market in downtown, HRA secured additional grant funds to invest in downtown properties, art organizations located in town, a new mural was painted, riverfront planning and projects continued, new businesses started, property owners reinvested, and so much more. It's exciting!

2018 Economic Development Highlights for Crow Wing County



Brainerd/Baxter Area Circle

- Gullview Technologies Secures BUF Financing
- BUF Financing Provided to Brainerd Distillery
- Glacier Ice House Expands Manufacturing Operations
- Lexington Gains Expertise through KEY Talent Program
- LINDAR/Avantech Hires KEY Talent to Grow Company
- Essentia Health Adds Staff with Help of Talent Marketing

Lakes Area Circle

- Pequot Tool Utilizes the KEY Program for Workforce Hires and Development
- Growth Zone Expands to 90+ Employees
- BUF Financing Approved for Outdoor Insights
- Pequot Lakes Business Park Continues Its Strategic Planning

Cuyuna Area Circle

- Aeropipe Acquires Former Parker Hannifin Facility
- Graphic Packaging Utilizes KEY Spousal Placement
- Modified Tool Receives BUF Loan to Support Local Succession Plan
- CRMC Taps into KEY Program to Assist with Spousal Placement

River to Rail Community Event



Crosslake Community School Opens



Cuyuna Area Fiber Study



Women's Business Alliance Forum



EXECs Coach Downtown Finalists



Breezy Point Development Park



Brainerd-Baxter Opportunity Zones



National Loon Center Planning

