



BARAGA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

3RD ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

January 15, 2025

Organization



KEWEENAW BAY
AND BEYOND

BARAGA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mission Statement

The BCEDC is a private-public-tribal partnership whose mission is to be the conduit for collaboration in the pursuit of economic development and prosperity in Baraga County.

The logo for Keweenaw Bay and Beyond features the text "KEWEENAW BAY" in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. Below this text is a stylized graphic of three wavy lines in shades of blue and green, representing water or a bay. Underneath the graphic, the words "AND BEYOND" are written in a smaller, dark blue, sans-serif font.

KEWEENAW BAY
AND BEYOND

The logo for Baraga County Economic Development Corporation consists of the text "BARAGA COUNTY" on the top line and "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION" on the bottom line, both in a white, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a solid green rectangular background.

BARAGA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Board of Directors



Bill Menge - Director
Retired



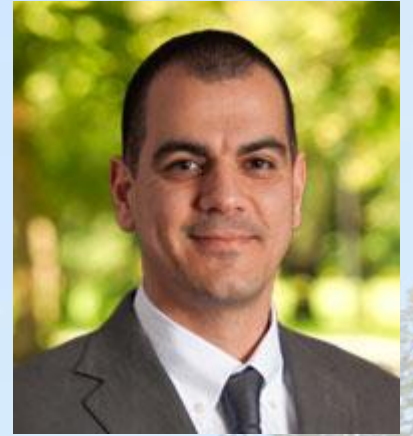
Bob LaFave - Director
Village of L'Anse



Brad Dakota - Director
Baraga County Commissioner



Jennifer Misegan - Director
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community



Koray Inal - Secretary
UP.Net - Baraga Telephone



Mark Massicotte - Chairman
L'Anse Manufacturing



Matthew Lutz - Treasurer
Superior National Bank



Rob Stowe - Director
Baraga Memorial Hospital



Roy Kempainen - Director
Retired

Not Pictured:
Phil Acciacca - Director
Acciacca Forest Products

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Staff

BCEDC STAFF LEAD



Christopher Germain
Chief Executive Officer



Mary Myers
Director of Economic
Development Services



Ashley Szczepanski
Director of Marketing



Mindy Meyers
Executive Director
Dickinson Area EDA



Brooke Quinn
Senior Business Development
Representative



Ashley Saari
Operations and
Marketing Specialist



Rachel Raak
Community Economic and
Development Coordinator



Hanna Westra
Outreach and
Development Specialist



Erica Huss
Small Business Support
Hub Project Manager



Paul Thares
Community Development
Programming Coordinator



Grace Simula
Controller



Lauren Rotundo
Small Business
Promotions Specialist



Travis Horn
Administrative Support
Coordinator

Services Provided

The BCED works with all stages and sectors of businesses, from start-up to succession.

Services include:

- Business retention & expansion services
- Business planning
- Site location
- Local, state, and federal incentive support
- Legislative network
- Grant writing & research
- Convener/Facilitator
- Economic modeling and industry research
- Economic impact studies
- Workforce development support
- Customized services based on business needs

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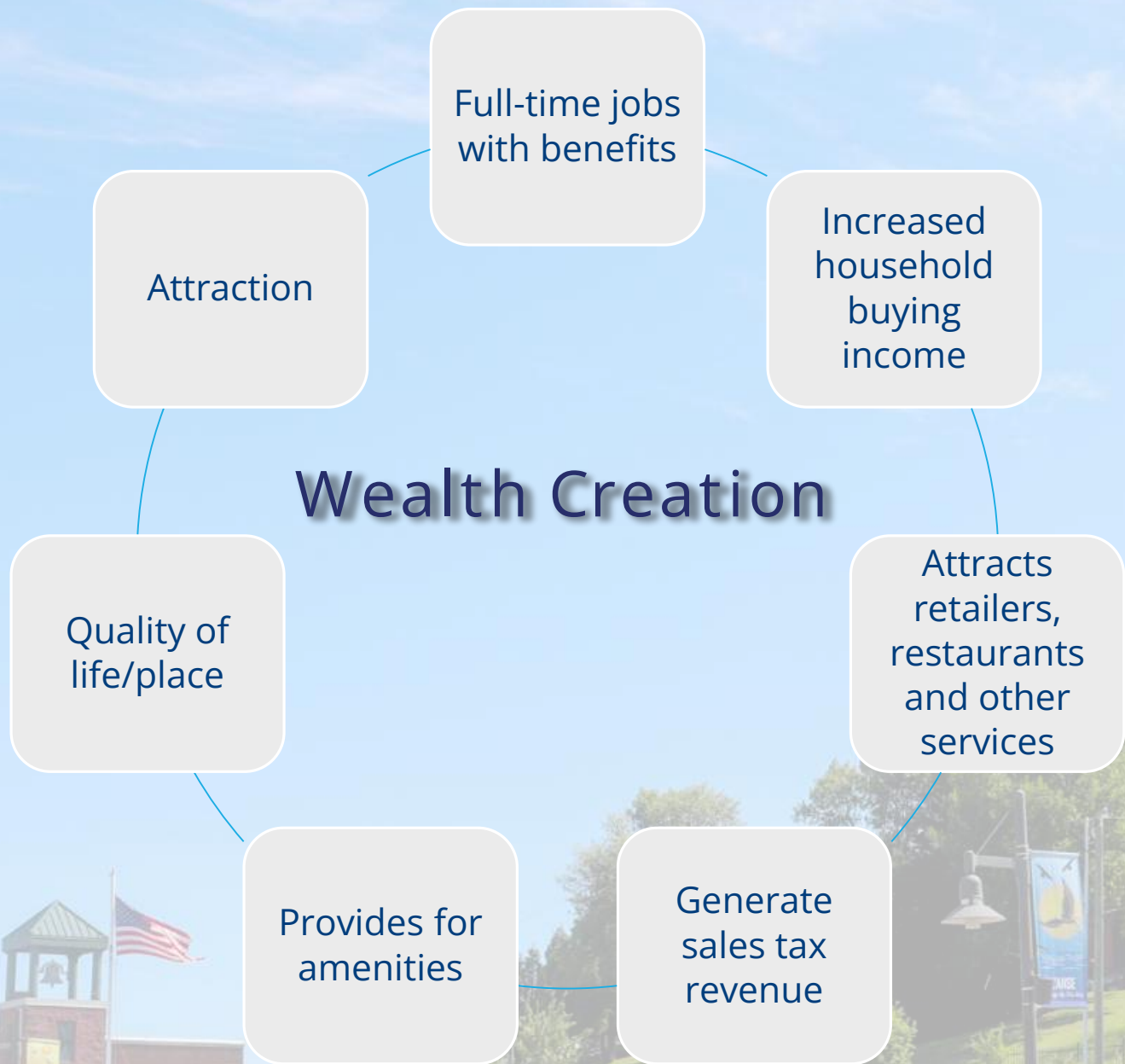
Funding Update

The BCEDC is currently a division of the County of Baraga. Funders include private, public, and tribal entities.

- Baraga County
- Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!
- Village of Baraga
- Baraga Chamber of Commerce
- L'Anse Manufacturing
- Village of L'Anse
- Superior National Bank
- Ojibwa Casino
- Baraga Telephone
- Eagle Mine
- Bay Insurance Agency
- CarQuest Auto Parts
- Lake Superior Community Partnership
- L'Anse Warden Electric Co
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Bay Auto Parts of Baraga Co.
- L'Anse Masonic Lodge
- Copper Shores Community Health Foundation
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community

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Wealth Creation

Attraction

Full-time jobs with benefits

Increased household buying income

Attracts retailers, restaurants and other services

Generate sales tax revenue

Provides for amenities

Quality of life/place

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Activities



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Retention Visits

Overall Clients	5 Year Total	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Retention Clients	385	83	79	67	65	91
Start-up Clients	30	7	7	6	7	3
Attraction Clients	9	1	0	1	2	5
Jobs Projected	96	9	4	15	18	50
Jobs Impacted	3,467	625	1,173	744	623	302
Jobs Retained	35	0	0	0	0	35

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Services



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Workshops

Workshop Title	Description
Start Up to Succession Planning	Learn how the BCEDC can help you to embark on your entrepreneurial journey, from starting your business to effectively navigating the successive phases of ownership. Our toolkits will provide guidance and a better understanding for every step of the process.
Economic Development 411	The Baraga County Economic Development Corporation is holding a series of educational webinars. Officials say they aim to foster economic growth and development in Baraga County and beyond by providing resources and insights into the community. It will discuss business attraction, entrepreneurship in the area, retention and expansion of businesses, and resources available to any size business in Baraga County.
Protecting your Business or Non-Profit in Today's World	Embezzlement and theft are growing concerns in news headlines, affecting businesses and non-profits alike. No matter which side you are on in the equation (board member, employee, employer, volunteer, etc.) you need to make sure you are protected.
Elevate Your Small Business	The HUB will be hosting an event to help Elevate Your Small Business. Hear from the Baraga County EDC on tools and resources your business can access for free.
How Updates to the Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) and the Improved Workforce Opportunity Wage Act (IWOWA) Affect Your Business	On July 31, 2024, the Michigan Supreme Court reinstated Michigan's original (2018) voter-initiated versions of the Improved Workforce Opportunity Wage Act (IWOWA) and the Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA). This reversion will take effect on February 21, 2025. The decision is significant for Michigan employers because it expands paid sick leave available to eligible employees and increases Michigan's minimum wage rate to \$12 per hour. Attorney Brian Sheridan and his paralegal, Peter Sikorsky, of Steward & Sheridan, will present on how the changes will impact businesses in our community.

Annual Data Booklet Release

2023 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:

2023 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:
Baraga County: 6.20%

2023 POPULATION:

Michigan U.S.

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

BARAGA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (BCEDC): 2023 ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

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BARAGA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2023 BARAGA COUNTY DATA BOOKLET
Presented by: Baraga County Economic Development Corporation

KEWEENAW BAY
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Monthly Articles



New Website Launched



Organizational Restructuring



**GOVERNMENT
ENTITY**



501(C)(3)

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L'Anse Area CDC

The L'Anse Area Community Development Corporation (CDC) was created through a Rural Readiness Grant awarded to WUPPDR. The BCEDC was a key partner in securing this grant, and several BCEDC board members are actively involved on the CDC board.



L'ANSE AREA COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Key Upcoming Activities

- Organizational restructuring
- Data Booklet 2024 release
- 2025 Webinar Schedule
- Continued Business Retention Services

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2025 Webinar Schedule

Workshop Title	Description
Building Your Business	Learn how the BCEDC can help you build your business all the way from inception, to business transition, and into the next stages of ownership. Our toolkits will provide guidance and a better understanding of every step of the process. Looking for funding and not sure where to begin? Learn about financial resources to help your business, such as templates, funding opportunities and more.
Business Development Tools & Insights	Join BCEDC's, Mary Myers, as she explains the tools and resources the BCEDC offers to help your business. With the help of Lightcast, Implan, Zoom Prospector and more, the BCEDC can provide you a toolkit to grow your business and position yourself for economic success in the future.
County Data Booklet	By using this report, businesses and community members can track the county's economic path to prosperity and better position ourselves for economic success in the future.
A.I.	Tools to assist businesses grow with the help of artificial intelligence.





- Consider a board position
- Become an investor
- Bring a project or connection forward
- Attend workshops and webinars

The background of the slide is a photograph of a brick building with a bell tower. An American flag is flying on a pole in front of the building. There are trees and a clear blue sky in the background.

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Become an Investor



Investment Pledge

BARAGA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Company Name: _____

Main Contact: _____ Title: _____

E-Mail: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Website: _____

About Your Business

Number of years in business: _____ Number of Full-time employees: _____ Part-time employees: _____

Investment Levels

Commitment Time Period:

1 Year 2 Years 3 Years

I want to support the Baraga County EDC with my donation in the amount of:

\$10,000 \$5,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 Other \$ _____

Your donation may be tax deductible under our 501c3 fund agreement. Would you like to make a donation under this fund agreement?

Yes No

Commitment for: _____ Investment Amount: \$ _____

Total Payment: \$ _____ Payment method: Cash Check Credit Card Invoice

Name on Card: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Account Number: _____ 3-digit code: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please make checks payable to BCEDC. If making a tax deductible donation please make payments to LSCP Foundation.*

Help Us Serve You Better

What do you expect from your BCEDC investment? Would you like to be more involved in the BCEDC activities?

PO Box 122, L'Anse MI 49946 | www.baragacounty.org/edc | 906.226.8591 ext. 104 | mary@baragacounty.org

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Announcements



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Project of the Year

Superior National Bank for their new banking facility.



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