

## 2024 Year in Review

# Strategic Priorities

- 1. Drive Local Economic Growth
- 2. Inspire Community Vitality
- 3. Facilitate Business Relationships
- 4. Leverage Government Liaisons
- 5. Support Workforce Strategies
- 6. Pursue Clarity & Distinction
- 7. Improve ROI for Members

belong. connect. succeed.



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Mission: We serve as the lead advocate and resource for our members and create partnerships that foster a healthy business climate.



## 2024-25 Board of Directors

Front row: Daniela Zens (Zens Steak & Seafood),
Coreen Schoep (Solutions Behavioral),
Emily Sivertson (Northern Contours),
Megan Beckler (Multi Business Solutions),
Larissa Campbell, Vice Chair (Hillcrest Academy),
Melissa Davis, Past Chair (NF Field Abstract).
Back row: Dustin Morris, Chair Elect (American
Federal Bank), Ben Brimhall (Minnesota Motor),
Darrell Schreiber (Comstock Construction),
Josh Bolluyt (Advanced Auto Care),
Nate Kunde, Chair (Otter Tail Power) &
Lucas Gervais (AMP Insurance).

"Being a member offers numerous benefits that can significantly enhance your business's success and community involvement. The Chamber serves as a strong advocate for your business and represents your interests in local, county, and state legislation. By joining the Chamber, you also demonstrate your commitment to the economic well-being and vitality of the Fergus Falls area, contributing to a thriving business community. Overall, membership in the Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce is an investment in your business's growth and the prosperity of the local economy."

Nate Kunde, Board Chair



#### **Chamber Staff**

Lisa Workman, President LeeAnn Barnett, Events Assistant Gina Ackerson, Marketing Specialist Missy Anderson, Admin. Assistant



### **Membership**

## Priorities & Outcomes

### Whom We Serve & Represent

362 Members

27 New **Members** 



12,473 **Employees** 

88% Membership Retention Rate

#### Retail, Restaurant **Professional Services** Home Prod. & Services 14% Non-Profit, Gov't 12% **Health & Home Care** 9% Entertain., Lodging 7% **Banks** 4% Manufacturing **Services**

#### 1. Drive Local Economic Growth



\$176,500 spent at 36 members during holiday campaign

#### FergusFalls.com

- 2,341,560 Website Visits
- +657% from 2023
- 86,559 Event Views





\$47,225 Fergus Bucks spent

300+ Members Featured in Radio, Newspaper, Digital & Social Media



**Promoting Members** on Social Media



20,242 Avg. Reach

4,256 **Followers** 



1.037 **Followers** 

#### 4. Leverage Government Liaisons



- Hosted Elected Leaders Listening Sessions
- 3 Meet the Candidates events
- Advocate for Members @ City Council
- "Legislative RoundUp" email
- MN Chamber Federation member leverages small business support

#### 6. Pursue Clarity & Distinction



Lead "State of the Community" & Joint Executive Meetings with Greater Fergus Falls, City of Fergus Falls & Otter Tail County

### 2. Inspire Community Vitality

42 Recipients of





#### 3. Facilitate Business to Business (B2B) Relationships

**80 Chamber Events** 1,197 Networking Connections





**Anniversary Celebrations** 54 Business Retention Visits

98,332 Member Page Views online 69,245 Online Business Searches



#### **Career Exploration Champion**

Secured a \$40,000 grant to support 66 student internships across 24 local businesses



**Hosted 59 Career Expo booths for** 1,100 high school students

23,876 Online Job Searches

#### 7. Improve ROI for Members



Launched new program: "Ignite Community Leadership"

**Hosted Digital Marketing Workshops** 

5 Membership Levels Refined