

MAKING IT HAPPEN
MAKING IT MATTER!

dakota countyregional
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2023 ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Meeting - January 19, 2023

dakota county regional

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Today's Program

Welcome – Jon Althoff, Interim Chamber President

Ambassador of the Year Award – Lise Freking, Dakota County Technical College/Inver Hills Community College

Dakota County Public Official of Note Award – Kathleen Gaylord, Dakota County Commissioner

Year in Review – Kyle Chank, Viking Lakes

2023 Highlights - Ryan O'Gara, SKB Environmental, Inc.

DCR Chamber Charitable Foundation – Mark Lofthus, Foundation Chair

Keynote Speaker – Jeanne Crain, President & CEO, Bremer Financial Corporation

Closing Remarks and Video



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MISSION STATEMENT

THE DAKOTA COUNTY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS THE REGIONAL VOICE THAT ADVOCATES FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, WORKS TO IMPROVE LOCAL AND REGIONAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTS, AND HELPS CULTIVATE VIBRANT COMMUNITIES.

1895 Plaza Drive, Suite 110, Eagan, MN 55122
www.dcrchamber.com

Region We Serve

The Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce is the influential regional voice that champions promotion and improvement of the business environment, cultivating vibrant regional and local communities. With over 550 members and partners, we are the voice of business and represent cities in Dakota County.

We also serve as the local Chamber of Commerce for the cities of Eagan, Farmington, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Rosemount, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul; along with the townships of Castle Rock, Empire, Eureka, and Hampton.

Dakota County is 3rd largest county in Minnesota

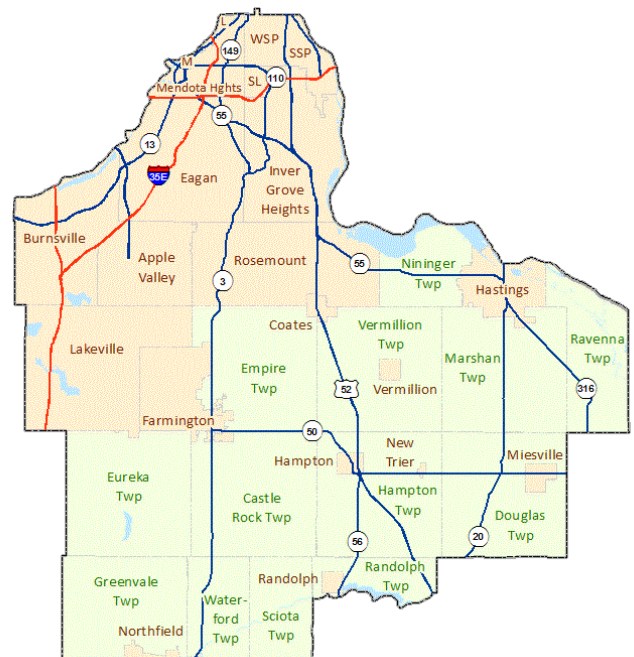
DCR Chamber is the 8th largest Chamber in metro with over 175 chambers in the state

Population of Dakota County - 442,038 people – a 10.9% increase from 2010-2020

There are 236,619 available workers in the county

Median household income \$88,468 (state \$73,382), median family income \$108,182 (state \$92,692)

Dakota County unemployment rate 1.6% in comparison to State 3.4% (Oct 2022 data)



Dakota County Profile

Complete report at: [MN.gov/deed](https://mn.gov/deed) – Data for Businesses – Regional Labor Markets – Metro – County Profiles – Dakota

Report contains population characteristics, population projections, educational attainment, labor force trends and characteristics, incomes, occupations, job vacancy survey, occupations in demand, economic characteristics, and economy

m EMPLOYMENT AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



2023 Chamber Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Incoming Chair:	Ryan O’Gara, SKB Environmental, Inc.
Immediate Past Chair:	Kyle Chank, Viking Lakes
Chair Elect:	Katie Bernhjelm, Twin Cities Orthopedics
Treasurer:	Lisa Franxman, MidCountry Bank – Hastings
Chamber Charitable Foundation:	Mark Lofthus
Interim Chamber President:	Jon Althoff, Chamber Charitable Foundation Secretary and Parachute Consulting Group

Board of Directors

Janet Benton	Twin Cities Orthopedics
Michael Berndt	Dakota County Technical College / Inver Hills Community College
Brent Cory	Enjoy Eagan
Jeffrey Ellis	The Law Office of Jeffrey A. Ellis, PLLC
Jennifer Furan	Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
Justin Hellickson	Think Mutual Bank
John Jensvold	Shaw-Lundquist Construction
Erica Kairis	Thomson Reuters
Ray Krantz	Gopher Resource, LLC
Terry Merritt	The Law Office of Dougherty, Molenda, Solfest, Hills & Bauer P.A.
Carol Osnes	Russ & Carol Osnes Foundation
Sara Payne	Ecolab
Genette Sekse Amar	Minnesota Vikings
Dan Sjolseth	Superior Service Center
Jill Skogheim	5-8 Grill & Tap
Scott Swenson	Drake Bank
Holli VanOverbeke	Flint Hills Resources
Mike Zipko	Velocity Public Affairs



2023 Dakota County Regional Chamber's Initiatives



The Chamber's Pillars of Work

- ❖ **Public Policy & Advocacy**
- ❖ **Business Resources**
- ❖ **Programming & Events**
- ❖ **Partnerships: Cities, County & Communities**
- ❖ **Future Leaders**
- ❖ **DCR Chamber Charitable Foundation**



- ✓ **Workforce Development**
- ✓ **Affordable Housing**
- ✓ **Affordable Childcare**
- ✓ **Healthcare**
- ✓ **Transit and Transportation**
- ✓ **Economic Development / Capital Investments**
- ✓ **Pro-Business Environment**
- ✓ **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

The DCR Chamber is committed to the growth and prosperity of its members, providing them resources and being their voice as we support our pillars of work and established initiatives for the year.

As we move through 2023, we will present topics and speakers to our members that focus on business development and educational avenues to increase profitability. The Chamber has a diverse group of members in many industry categories, which provides an opportunity to bring connectivity throughout the region.

We will continue with our **Public Policy and Advocacy** initiatives such as the Phase II Transit Study recommendations, **Workforce and Affordable Housing, Equity and Inclusion** to ensure access for all. We have introduced a new Advocacy & Issues Forum series that will focus on critical initiatives and address issues important to our members, community partners, and stakeholders. We will work closely with our cities to support future **Economic Development** projects affecting our communities.

As the workforce and communities grow, we will support more means for **Affordable Childcare** throughout Dakota County, working with local and state initiatives to ensure childcare is easily available within the county.



Committees & Groups



Ambassadors Group



Business Excellence Awards
Celebration Committee



Golf Classic Committee



Public Affairs Committee



Women's Leadership Forum
Committee



Enlightened Leads Group
– New 2022



2022 Summary

2022 Program / Events

Public Affairs Series – Topics:

Insights from the MN GOP and DFL State Party Chairs
Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and What it Means for Minnesota Businesses
Meet the Dakota County Legislative Delegation
Commissioner Steve Grove from DEED – MN Updates
“It’s a Wrap”
Countdown to the End of the 2022 Legislative Session
The Road to 2022 Midterm Elections – Part 1
The Road to 2022 Midterm Elections – Part 2

Critical Issues Forum – Topics:

Reimagining Public Safety and the Criminal Justice System in Dakota County
The Future for Higher Education for Dakota County and Minnesota
Pandemic to Endemic – What the Future Holds for Dakota County and Minnesota

Dakota County Issues Forum: Dakota County Survey Results and County Update

Events/Programs:

2nd Congressional Debate
Business Excellence Awards Celebration
Coffee Breaks – 15
DCR Chamber Annual Meeting
DCR Chamber Annual Holiday Luncheon
Dakota County Legislative Reception
Enlightened Leads Group – twice a month
Golf Classic – 16th Annual
Leaders in Local Government Awards
Leadership Academy – 8 months
Let’s Connect Happy Hours - 3
Meet the Chamber – 11 orientation meetings
Podcast Productions – 4
Ribbon Cutting Celebrations / Open Houses– 17
State of the Airport Luncheon
State of the City Eagan
State of the City Farmington
State of the City Mendota Heights
State of the City Rosemount
State of the City West St. Paul
Transportation Candidate Forum
VIP Vikings Training Camp Experience
Women’s Leadership Forum – 11th Annual
Women’s Luncheons – 4
Young Professionals events – 3

What's Planned for 2023

The DCR Chamber will continue to provide our signature events, partnership events with the Cities, and other proven programs.

As we continue to build on our Chamber pillars, new events and programs are being planned for 2023.

SIGNATURE EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2023



**DCR CHAMBER
ANNUAL
MEETING**
January 19



**WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP
FORUM**
March 10



**GOLF CLASSIC –
BRACKETT'S
CROSSING**
July 17



**BUSINESS
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**
Oct. or Nov.



**HOLIDAY
LUNCHEON FOR
NONPROFITS**
December

NEW PROGRAMS FOR 2023

Advocacy & Issues Series – combination of prior Public Affairs Series and Critical Issues Series – monthly except for July - September

Dakota County Community & Business Resource Guide – digitized and magazine-sized issue, enhanced video experience, interactive contents, tap-to-read articles, searchable Member Directory with links

Pat Miles – Speaker Luncheon in May

Young Professionals Series – 5 events in partnership with four local chambers

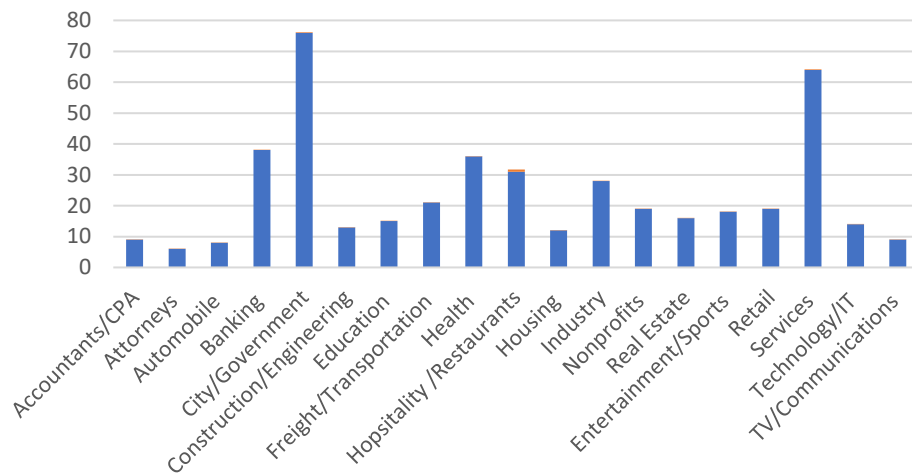
Women's Luncheons with "Spotlight Speaker" – 5 luncheons

Membership Stats

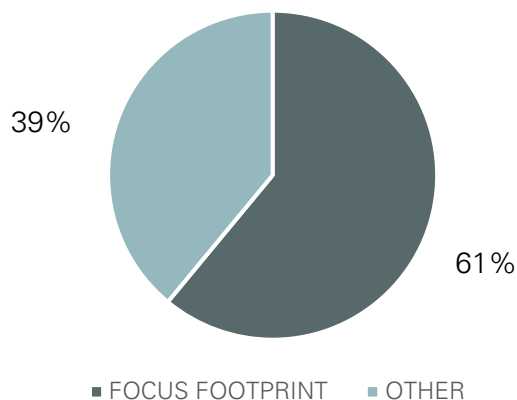
Dakota County Regional Chamber

The Chamber membership is a composition of businesses and industries.

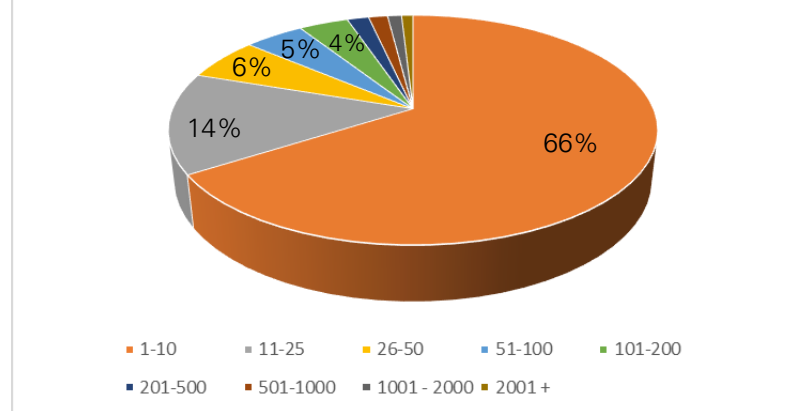
Industry Breakout by Percent



Membership Location



Member Size by Number Full Time Employees



DCR Chamber Staff

Jon Althoff
Becky Little
Laura Roehl
Becca Scholz
Anna Schueler

Interim Chamber President (new president anticipated second quarter)
Operations & Administration
Marketing & Partnerships (Membership & Sponsorships)
Events & Programs
Finance & Accounting

Dakota County Regional Chamber's Charitable Foundation

The Foundation is a venue for Chamber members and others to get involved in the community through business, leadership development, workforce education, and chamber initiatives (transit and housing).

It recognizes and supports individuals of Dakota County into future paths of economic and personal success, by providing scholarships focusing on high-demand jobs and careers.



Please consider a contribution to the Foundation!

Results in 2022

- ✓ **SCHOLARSHIPS - \$7,000 in 2022**
 - ✓ **High school seniors for School District #191, #192, #196, and #197**
- ✓ **PHLEBOTOMIST TRAINING PROGRAM - \$76,000**
 - ✓ **Dual Pipeline Grant awarded in May 2022 and program started in August - partnership with DCTC and i-Health**
- ✓ **NONPROFITS GRANTS supporting Dakota County**
- ✓ **TRANSPORTATION - PHASE II STUDY on transit needs in Dakota County**



2022 High School Senior Scholarship Recipients

Plans for 2023

- ✓ **SCHOLARSHIPS - \$7,500**
 - ✓ **High school seniors for School District #191, #192, #196, and #197**
- ✓ **FOURWINS SCHOLARSHIPS - \$6,000 awarded to students filling jobs in demand**
- ✓ **PHLEBOTOMIST TRAINING PROGRAM - continue the \$76,000 Dual Pipeline Grant in partnership with DCTC and i-Health**
- ✓ **CONTINUED TO SUPPORT NONPROFITS IN DAKOTA COUNTY**

Foundation Board of Directors

Mark Lofthus
Jon Althoff

Lisa Franxman
Peggy Johnson
Carol Osnes
Sofia Troutman

Foundation Chair
Foundation Secretary, Interim Chamber President, and Parachute Consulting Group
Foundation Treasurer and MidCountry Bank
Dakota Electric Association
Russ & Carol Osnes Foundation
Xcel Energy

MAKING IT HAPPEN! MAKING IT MATTER!

The Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce provides a variety of businesses, industries, nonprofits, schools, and cities the opportunity to grow and prosper through programming, advocacy, and invaluable connections.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to “Making It Happen, Making It Matter” in 2023.

*The Chamber Board of Directors, Charitable
Foundation Board, and Chamber Staff*



Thank You to Our 2023 Annual Meeting Sponsors

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