



City of
URBANDALE
Department of Economic Development

AUGUST 21, 2015

Corporate Culture in the Workplace Event on Tuesday, August 25

The City, Chamber, and DMACC have partnered to provide local businesses with resources for workforce development through a three-part series. The second session in the series will feature Scott Raecker, Director of The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center (formerly Character Counts in Iowa). The Center conducts research, provides programming and training, and publishes scholarly works focusing on leadership, ethics, and civility.

At the August 25 session, Raecker will discuss corporate culture. The session will also feature representatives from Hy-Vee and Harrisvaccines and their work with corporate culture. This no-cost session is on Tuesday, August 25 from 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM at the Urbandale City Hall (3600 86th Street). Please [RSVP to Katie Gieszler](#) or call 515-331-6738 for additional information.

ProbioFerm, LLC Expands with New Facility

ProbioFerm, LLC is an Urbandale-based, probiotic contract manufacturing company that grows and markets beneficial bacteria. ProbioFerm is building an approximately 22,000 square foot manufacturing and warehouse facility for product packaging and to accommodate additional space needed for manufacturing, warehousing and distribution. The company plans to invest just over \$1.9 million at the new location and expand employment over the next three years. The City and Iowa Economic Development Authority approved economic development incentives to support this investment.

Congratulations to Two Urbandale Companies on Recognition for Outstanding Growth

Last week, *Inc.* magazine released its [list of fastest-growing companies](#) in the United States with two Urbandale companies featured: [BirdDogHR](#) and [IP Pathways](#). The City has recently partnered with the Iowa Economic Development Authority to support both companies with economic development financial assistance. These companies are among the high-performing group of businesses which make up Urbandale's fast-growing information technology sector.

State Provides Financial Assistance for Trade Show Exhibitors

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) International Trade Office, in

cooperation with the U.S. Small Business Administration's STEP program, offers financial assistance to eligible Iowa companies exhibiting at an international trade show taking place in the U.S. (Domestic Trade Assistance Program) or outside the U.S. (Export Trade Assistance Program). Companies may receive up to \$4,000 per grant and can access up to three grants in a funding period. Details are available on [IEDA's Website](#) or contact Lisa Longman at lisa.longman@iowa.gov or 515-725-3139

Input from Urbandale Stakeholders Key to Plan for Housing

Urbandale stakeholders are invited to a community forum focused on planning for future development and housing. The session is the result of a technical assistance grant awarded to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The workshop is focused on equitable development, offering best practices on preserving and developing affordable housing and providing access to high-quality employment. Thursday's public meeting is one part of a two-day series of workshops facilitated by a technical assistance team which will work with Urbandale city staff and local leaders to determine what issues are most important to the community as it grows.

Your knowledge and expertise are needed to help make this event a success. Please attend and help shape Urbandale's future.

When: August 27, 6-8 PM

Where: Giovannetti Community Shelter/Walker Johnston Park, 8900 Douglas Avenue

Please [RSVP online](#) or email jhellyer@pctf.org

Access Revolving Loan Fund for Business Success

The City Council recently approved revisions to the City's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). The RLF is an Urbandale incentive to provide financial assistance to businesses that plan to make a capital investment and create new job opportunities and/or retain existing jobs in Urbandale. Assistance may be available for business startups, expansion or retention, and to businesses that are relocating to Urbandale from outside of the Metro Area. Assistance is provided in the form of low or no-interest loans. Assistance is based on level of investment, quality of employment, and benefit to the community. Check out this [fact sheet](#) for basic details of the program and [contact staff](#) with any questions.

Urbandale Earns Top Spot on Best Places List

Last week, [Only in Your State](#) ranked Urbandale the best place to live in Iowa based on education, amenities and employment opportunities. *Nerd Wallet* has named Urbandale one of the best cities for home ownership (2014) and young families (2013) in Iowa. This year, *Movoto* named Urbandale's 50323 the third-happiest ZIP Code in America!

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City of Urbandale Economic Development Department Website

www.urbandale.org/econdev

Online Available Site and Building Database

www.urbandale.org/224/Available-Properties

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