



P.O. Box 71
Barron, WI 54812
Office: 715-637- 6871

Barron County Economic Development Corporation

Annual Funding Request:

The BCEDC promotes economic growth and stability in Barron County in its twenty-five Townships, seven Villages and four cities by providing professional and technical assistance to business start-ups, expansions of existing businesses, relocations of businesses to the county, tourism development programs and Alternative Energies. The organization addresses these needs across the manufacturing, retail and service sectors. The BCEDC also serves as liaison between public and private economic development and planning organizations and recommends policies to County government that support the achievement of planned economic development goals.

New Benefits for Your Business or Jurisdiction: Economic Development activities by the BCEDC also reach into **two of Wisconsin's Regions** in its collaboration with 10 counties in the **Northwest ITBEC Economic Development and Tourism Committees**, the newly established 10 county **Momentum West organization in the West Central Region and the Governor's St. Croix Area Promotions Council, that serves businesses around the three Tribal gaming properties in the micro-region, including Barron, Burnett and Polk Counties.** The BCEDC is also a portal to the **Downtown Façade Loan Program** and the **MicroLoan Program**, both much needed **low interest** specialty loan programs for businesses throughout the county. In some cases, the BCEDC acts as the loan review committee for **Villages and Townships** participating in the programs without official approval committees. The BCEDC is also the county's review committee for the **Regional Business Fund**. The BCEDC also arranged **for city/village owned industrial park land to be listed in the MLS including Minnesota.** Now, the available land is easier to be reviewed by site selectors and corporate real estate officials.

The BCEDC is a 501c3 nonprofit, charitable economic development organization. All contributions from the private sector and by individuals are tax deductible and various Annual Giving plans are available. The entity is governed by a Board of 15 members, drawn from the public and private sectors representing a cross section of the county. The Board Members historically and continually provide valuable input and leadership in the operations and direction of the organization, resulting in many past and current successes.

The BCEDC relies on public-private contributions to assist in funding the organization and the promotion, advertising and marketing of Barron County. **None of your dollars goes toward salaries or benefit payments, only to the county's marketing, advertising and promotional efforts.**

Through the activities conducted by its Executive Director, the BCEDC on average provides over \$25,000 in value-added activities for each of its municipal contributors and the same activities are shared by each of the businesses that contribute to the organization. Some of the activities include working trade shows, national advertising and local, regional and national promotional activities. It also includes contacts and work with business start-ups, expansions, relocations, attraction and tourism development activities throughout the county and regions. The BCEDC has no staff with exception to the Executive Director which allows a focused effort by an economic development professional. Summary Recaps of Projects are available on request by snail or email. In addition to working with over 200 businesses and business related projects on an annual basis, these are economic development activities that no City or Village can currently fund or perform on its own.

There are many projects the office is currently working on, including targeted business attraction efforts in health care/ health related areas, technology and technology transfer business attraction and regional marketing programs and communication efforts. Over three years running now, the monthly "Barron County Economic Development Newsletter" is viewable on the www.barroncounty.com website. Click on the BCEDC NEWS link from the Home Page.

This funding request before you will assist in the operations and programming of the BCEDC for 2009. If you would like additional organization information, please contact any of the Officers listed below.

Sincerely,

The BCEDC Officers
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President 715-236-7929

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Vice President 715-924-4817

Bruce Markgren
Secretary/Treasurer 715-234-7008