

Learn How Inner Wisconsin Inspires Innovation

Learn how developing local assets leads to economic resilience. This economic development luncheon will inform you about how the Community Progress Initiative is a key economic development tool for our Inner Wisconsin Community.



Wednesday, May 21, 2008
Hotel Mead (11:30 am-1:00 pm)



Agenda At A Glance

11:15 am ~ Registration

11:30 am ~ Welcome, Connie Loden, President & CEO, Heart of Wisconsin

11:35 am ~ Chef Randall Smith, Hotel Mead ~ Chef Randall Smith will talk about his Ireland study tour experience-where local branding and buying local is part of their culture.

11:40 am ~ Luncheon ~ Menu includes local produce: Wisconsin Three Cheese Salad with Fresh Basil Vinaigrette, Homestyle Beef Braise made with choice Wisconsin Steer and Wisconsin Russets, Homemade Ice Cream with Cranberries and Local Honey.



12:00 pm ~ Introduction to Keynote Speaker by Fred Siemers, Vice President, River Cities Bank

12:15 pm ~ Keynote Speaker: Judith L. Millesen, Ohio University, will share an overview of her published case study: **Community Economic Development at Its Finest: A Case Study of the Community Progress Initiative.** The study concludes that the Community Progress Initiative has been a proactive, holistic approach to community change that focuses on citizen engagement, developing local assets, capturing opportunities, and achieving economic resilience.

Professor Millesen is also the published author of "**Economic Devastation Renewal, and Growth: Community Foundations Catalysts for Change,**" a paper that she presented in April 2007. That research examines how the Community Foundation of Greater South Wood County, in partnership with Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance, coordinated an effort to transform community culture. Professor Millesen's research details how community foundations - during times of economic uncertainty, rapid technological change, dwindling resources, and complex societal needs - can play a key role in building community stability and empowerment, functioning as a change agent that helps citizens advance and create new visions for local communities.

Keynote Speaker
Judith L. Millesen
Ohio University



12:45-1 pm ~ Current CPI Initiatives & How to Get Involved!

Registration

Name(s): _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Cost (\$15 / per person) Amount Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to: Heart of Wisconsin Community Incubator. **Mail to:** Heart of Wisconsin, 1120 Lincoln Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Register online at: www.heartofwi.com Please register by: May 15, 2008

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