

SCCDP 2023 STRATEGIC PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL NEW INVESTMENT IN SEWARD COUNTY TRACKED THROUGH ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS: **\$32,801,545**

LEADING LONG-TERM, PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY CHANGE

- Secured \$1.134 million for the Seward County Rural Workforce Housing Fund.
- Partnered with ALLO to receive \$9,274,648 of Nebraska Capital Projects Fund to expand fiber-optic internet availability in rural Seward County.
- Supported three new childcare centers and one new preschool in Seward County in applying for and receiving over \$2 million in childcare grant funding, which will facilitate their ability to serve approximately 200 children.
- Distributed \$78,500 of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) funding allowing existing childcare providers to expand their capacity and extend hours of care.

SUPPORTING A THRIVING COMMUNITY AND ECONOMY

- Executed on Perkins Basic Grant (\$37,194.40 over three years) in partnership with Educational Services Unit 6 (ESU 6) through workforce development initiatives, career fairs, and internships with Seward County high schools.
- Launched SCCDP Rural Innovation Initiative 2023 Heartland Cohort to develop tech entrepreneurship ecosystem strategy in Seward County.
- Graduated the first class of Rising Stars Leadership Program to contribute to succession planning efforts in Seward County.

COMMUNICATING A STRONG, POSITIVE BRAND FOR SEWARD COUNTY

- Created 15 new podcasts with a total of 654+ downloads, showcasing community and member events, plus discussions on mental health and wellness.
- Created 17 Seward County Career Experience videos in conjunction with the ReVISION grant and in partnership with Seward Public Schools.
- Installed lighting (Illuminate Seward campaign) on 19 historic downtown buildings with new LEDs in 2022 and 2023.
- Hosted Annual Awards Banquet (170+ attendance) and Farm to Table Culinary Experience (115+ attendance).
- Completing the final steps of certification to become a Nebraska Creative Arts District.

SUSTAINING OUR MISSION

- Membership grew to a total of 292 with the addition of 26 new members in 2023.
- Hired a new Director of Marketing and Storytelling in January 2023.

