

Rural Summit 2022 Agenda

Monday April 11

Pre-Conference Opportunities (choose one)

12:00-5:00 **Rural Housing Readiness Assessment Workshop, Garden Room, Reiman Gardens, 1407 University Blvd, Ames, IA 50011.** Lunch included. Register for this event at <https://go.iastate.edu/HBGUGL>

2:30-4:30pm: **Tour Iowa State University's Digital Manufacturing Lab,** powered by Alliant Energy with assistance by Iowa Economic Development Authority, 2500 North Loop Drive, Suite 7580, Ames, Iowa 50010.

3:00-4:30 pm **Tour Gross-Wen Technologies' Slater Demonstration** which uses algae to treat city wastewater. Meet at GWT HQ, 404 Main St, Slater, IA 50244, at 3pm followed by tour.

5pm- 7pm: **Welcome Reception at Reiman Gardens**
1407 University Blvd, Ames, IA 50011
Sponsored by The Bill Menner Group and Trusted Energy

Tuesday April 12

7:30-9am **Registration and Continental breakfast**
Tent. Sponsored by Iowa American Water

9am **Conference Welcome, Gateway Hotel Prairie Ballroom**

- ISU President Wendy Wintersteen
- IRDC Chair Mark Reinig

9:15am **Conference Opening Keynote. Benjamin Anderson, Gateway Hotel Prairie Ballroom**
The Road to Health and Vitality in Rural America

10:00am **Celebration of Sponsors and Exhibitors, Gateway Hotel Prairie Ballroom**

10:30am Networking Break

11:00am Break-out Sessions, Round 1

Critical Issues: **Connecting Everyone, Prairie South Meeting Room**
Benjamin Anderson (moderator)
Felicia DeJong, Postville
Carlos Arguello, LatinoIQ/Greene County
Mayor Katie McCullough, West Liberty

Facilities/Projects: **Growing Ag Tech in Iowa, Prairie Central Meeting Room**

Sponsored by America's Cultivation Corridor

Nathan Katzer (moderator)

Nadilia Gomez, ISU CTO Digital and Precision Ag

Kevin Kimle, ISU Agricultural Entrepreneurship Initiative

Doug Moore, Cultivo, Entrepreneur in Residence

Facing the Future: **Leading Through Innovative Efforts, Prairie North Meeting Room**

Sponsored by Bolton & Menk

James Hoelscher, Jim Thompson (co-moderators)

Lisa Kremer, Buchanan County

Lyle Muller, IowaWatch

Marie Whiteing, Mapleton

12:15pm

Lunch, Garden Room

Sponsored by D.A. Davidson

Opening Remarks: David Spalding, Board Chair, ISU Research Park
Empowering Rural Iowa with Lieutenant Governor Adam Gregg

1:30pm

Break-out Sessions, Round 2

Critical Issues: **Building Broadband for All, Prairie South**

Brittany Morales (moderator)

Jeff Roiland, Western Iowa Networks, Breda

Lonnie Mayberry, Mills County Supervisor

Kevin Cabbage, Famers Mutual Telephone, Stanton

Facilities/Projects: **Housing Success Stories – All of the Above! Prairie Central**

Sponsored by Impact7G

Gary Taylor (moderator)

Beth Bilyeu, Forest City

Dawn Meyer, Manning

Laura Kloewer, Red Oak

Facing the Future: **Education Partnerships Leading the Way, Prairie North**

Emily Shields (moderator)

Eduardo Diaz, DMACC Perry

Sue Gehling, Carroll

Chris Plunkett, Iowa Wesleyan University

2:30pm

Short Break with Light Snack/Transition to Break-out Rooms

- 2:45pm Break-out Sessions, Round 3
- Critical Issues: **Preserving Arts and Culture in Rural Places, Prairie South**
David Schmitz (moderator)
Jennifer Drinkwater, ISU Extension
Nancy Nickerson Lee, Cedar Summerstock Theatre, Mitchell County
Mel Stockman, Calico Publishing, Van Buren County
- Facilities/Projects: **Small-town Hotels: Putting Heads in Rural Beds, Prairie Central**
Kim Didier (moderator)
Jeremy Greisbach, Cobblestone Hotels
David Barker, Kingsley Inn, Fort Madison
Meagan Hubenka, Hotel Greenfield
- Facing the Future: **Aging and Living in Place – Assuring Support in Rural Iowa, Prairie North**
Sponsored by AARP Iowa
Brad Anderson (moderator)
Steve Diers, Charles City
Daejin Kim, ISU College of Design
Jenn Ofelt, UnityPoint @Home

3:45pm **Hotel Check-in and Meet the Vendors!**

5:00pm **Rural Recognition Reception, Garden Room**
Sponsored by Iowa Farm Bureau/Renew Rural Iowa

5:30pm **The Rand Fisher Rural Leadership Awards Ceremony, Garden Room**
Sponsored by IADG Community Foundation

6:30pm Dinner on your Own

Wednesday April 13

7:30am **Buffet Breakfast; Community Networking Time, Garden Room**
Sponsored by ITC Midwest

8:30am Welcome Back, Day 2

8:40am **Roundtable #1: Making Sense of the Census: Preparing for 2030, Prairie Ballroom**
Sponsored by America's SBDC - Iowa
Sandy Ehrig (moderator)
Liesl Eathington, ISU Department of Economics
Bill Morain, Lamoni
Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities

9:45am Break/Check Out

10:15am **45 Ideas in 45 Minutes, Prairie Ballroom**

11:00am **Closing Keynote Brenda Clark Hamilton, Prairie Ballroom**
Sponsored by MonkeyThis
“Dynamic Leaders Needed...to Be Rural Iowa Influencers”

11:50pm Parting Messages and Adjournment

Sponsors:

Iowa Farm Bureau – Renew Rural Iowa | Iowa Area Development Group | ITC Midwest | Iowa SBDC |
D.A. Davidson | MonkeyThis | Windstream | Bolton & Menk | Cultivation Corridor | AARP | Impact 7G |
Iowa Housing Partnership | Amerigroup | LSB | Grinnell Mutual |

Exhibitors:

AARP | ABI | HUD | Bolton & Menk | Denovo | DMACC 10,000 Small Businesses |
Henkel Construction | Iowa Communications Alliance | Iowa Housing Partnership | Impact 7G |
Lincoln Savings Bank | MonkeyThis | Terracon | UNI Advance Iowa | UNI Institute for Decision Making |
Wellmark Healthy Hometown |