

## 2023 Iowa Rural Summit

### Monday April 10

#### Pre-Conference Opportunities

10:00-3:00 2023 Annual Rural Housing Readiness Assessment Conference. Lunch provided.  
Ames Gateway Hotel and Conference Center, Garden Room  
To Register: <https://go.iastate.edu/53TIBU>

1:00-5:00 Rural Site Visits  
Ogden: Legacy Initiatives - Past, Present & Future (tour and presentation, 2-3:30)  
Ames: Power Pollen (tour and presentation, 2-3:30)  
Roland: Hawkeye Molding (tour and presentation, 2-3:30)

5pm- 7pm: Welcome Reception at Gateway Hotel  
Garden Room  
*Sponsored by The Bill Menner Group and Trusted Energy*

### Tuesday April 11

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

9am Conference Welcome, Gateway Hotel Prairie Ballroom

- IRDC Board President Mark Reinig
- ISU VP for Extension Jason Henderson

9:15am Conference Opening Keynote, Prairie Ballroom.  
Danielle Nierenberg, President, *Food Tank: The Think Tank for Food*  
*Sponsored by CultureALL*

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

10:30am Networking Break

11:00am Break-out Sessions, Round 1  
Critical Issues: *Addressing Rural Food Access*, Prairie South Meeting Room  
*Sponsored by Iowa Healthiest State Initiative*

Danielle Nierenberg (moderator)  
Kelly Carr, Mount Pleasant  
Haleisa Johnson, Strawberry Point  
Kate Olson, Atlantic

Facilities/Projects: *Building Momentum: Recent Child Care Successes*, Prairie Central  
*Sponsored by First Children's Finance*  
Angie Duncan (moderator)  
Cathy Essick, Brooklyn  
Mindy Stalker, Creston/Union County  
Josh Laraby, Fairfield

Facing the Future: *FINDing Rural Healthcare Professionals*, Prairie North Meeting Room  
*Sponsored by Delta Dental*  
Ethan Pitt (moderator)  
Dr. Tony Brantner, Algona  
Maureen Elbert, Kossuth County  
Dr. Bryn Johnson, Iowa Falls  
Beth Jones, Delta Dental of Iowa

12:15pm Lunch, Garden Room  
*Sponsored by D.A. Davidson*  
*Empowering Rural Iowa* with Lieutenant Governor Adam Gregg  
15 Ideas in 15 Minutes

1:30pm Break-out Sessions, Round 2  
Critical Issues: *Local Cheerleaders and Welcome Wagons*  
Raquel Botello (moderator)  
Andy Maw, Ottumwa  
Patricia Ritchie, Denison  
Margo Underwood, Pocahontas County

Facilities/Projects: *Public Libraries Driving Innovation*, Prairie Central Meeting Room  
*Sponsored by Grinnell Mutual*  
Jamie Williams (moderator)  
Kim Albright, Hopkinton  
Crystal Duffy, Postville  
Andrew Hoppmann, Clarinda  
Dr. Zachary Stier, Boone

Facing the Future: *Rural Hospitals as Economic Engines*, Prairie North  
*Sponsored by Iowa Association of Business & Industry*  
Ashley Thompson (moderator)  
Jennifer Havens, Grinnell  
Craig Hohn, Rock Rapids  
Steve Simonin, Belmond and Clarion

2:30pm Short Break with Light Snack/Transition to Break-out Rooms

- 2:45pm Break-out Sessions, Round 3
- Critical Issues: *Leveraging a Downtown Assessment Team Visit, Prairie South*  
*Sponsored by Bolton & Menk*  
Jim Thompson (moderator)  
Maureen Elbert, Kossuth/Palo Alto County  
Jeff Kolb, Butler/Grundy County  
Dylan Morse, Knoxville
- Facilities/Projects: *Expanding Community Assets through Leaders and Volunteers*  
*Sponsored by Wellmark*  
Himar Hernandez (moderator)  
Shirley Kessel, Lamoni  
Katie Mason, Coon Rapids  
Joy Padget – Keosauqua
- Facing the Future: *Rural Business Continuity, Succession & Worker Cooperatives*  
*Sponsored by UNI Advance Iowa*  
Stacy Mullinex (moderator)  
Carla Eysink, Knoxville  
Rachael Kinnick, Grinnell  
Kimberly Tiefenthaler, Carroll
- 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 12**

- 7:30am Buffet Breakfast/Community Networking Time, Garden Room  
*Sponsored by ITC Midwest*
- 8:30am Welcome Back, Day 2

- 8:40am Roundtable: *Powerful Rural Businesses: 10KSB Alums*, Prairie Ballroom  
*Sponsored by DMACC/Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses*  
Jacki Boldt (moderator)  
Wayne Barahona, Sheldon  
Kelly Bay, Emmetsburg  
Heidi Kaisand, Conrad  
Aryn Henning Nichols, Decorah
- 9:45am Break/Check Out
- 10:15am *45 Ideas in 45 Minutes*, Prairie Ballroom  
*Sponsored by ISU Economic Development and Industry Relations/ America's SBDC Iowa*
- 11:00am Closing Keynote: Carrie Henning-Smith, *Rural Vitality Through the Lens of Social Wellbeing* Prairie Ballroom  
*Sponsored by Delta Dental*
- 11:50pm Parting Messages and Adjournment