



PROMOTING GROWTH
& PROSPERITY



FOX CITIES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ANNUAL REPORT 2018





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Becky Bartoszek
President/CEO

Thank you for supporting the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and Regional Partnership as we work together to foster a community of business growth and prosperity. Our goal in 2019 is sharpening our focus on YOU. We will be bringing you better tools to help grow your business as well as anticipate and prepare for changes that may impact our community in the future. As a trusted partner for your business, we have been and continue to seek ways to retain talent and business here, encouraging enterprise to grow and thrive in the Fox Cities. We look forward to continuing our mission in 2019.

| 2018 FOX CITIES CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTS |

MEMBER SERVICES

● **931** TOTAL MEMBERS
New members in 2018: 135

● **32** AMBASSADORS
the premier volunteer arm of the Fox Cities Chamber

● **43** MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS
ribbon cuttings, grand openings & more

● **13** BUSINESS CONNECTIONS
estimated event attendance: **1,154**

● **9** BUSINESS BREAKFAST BYTES
estimated event attendance: **281**

● **2** SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOPS
estimated event attendance: **50**



PUBLIC POLICY

- **5** PUBLIC POLICY COUNCIL MEETINGS
- **3** PUBLIC POLICY EVENTS
- **4** BUSINESS TOURS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

"Thank you for inviting me to speak to the Fox Cities Chamber Policy Committee. The committee was great, I wish every chamber had that level of member engagement."

- Cory Fish, Director of Tax, Transportation and Legal Affairs, WMC

FOX CITIES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF THE FOX CITIES CHAMBER

● **145** BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION VISITS

● **217** ECONOMIC OUTLOOK SURVEY COMPANY RESPONDENTS

● **15** RFI REQUESTS COMPLETED
 contributed to 3 expansions in the Fox Cities Region

● **268** COMPANIES SURVEYED IN 2018 BENEFIT SURVEY



TALENT & WORKFORCE

YOUR FUTURE FOX CITIES

● **25** PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

● **223** PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

● **7,373** CAREER-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES completed to date

YOUR FUTURE LIVE! 2-DAY CAREER EXPO EVENT

- Event extended to two days in 2018. Day 1 allowed over **2,600 local 8th graders** the opportunity to engage with **82 businesses** to explore careers in the Fox Cities.
- Day 2 welcomed **1,900+ high schoolers** to make connections with Fox Cities employers.



LEADERSHIP FOX CITIES



● **39** PARTICIPANTS 2017-2018 LFC class

● **6** GROUP PROJECTS completed

- An official **Leadership Fox Cities Alumni Association (LFCAA)** was launched in Fall 2018 to support positive change through leadership development by providing resources, events and leadership education to individuals and organizations in the Fox Cities throughout the year. **Membership in the LFCAA is open to all alumni of LFC.**

“My time in the Leadership Fox Cities program gave me the opportunity to share in very unique experiences throughout the Fox Valley that I had very little knowledge about, even after living here so many years. It was an amazing opportunity and experience that I am honored to have had; and I hope to continue that with the LFC Alumni Association.”

- *Matthew D. Brehmer, Attorney at Law, Certified Public Accountant, Remley & Sensenbrenner, S.C.*





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Ex-Officio

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| 2018 FOX CITIES CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTS |

PULSE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK OF THE FOX CITIES CHAMBER

● 8 TOTAL EVENTS

- > YPWeek, statewide talent retention initiative with NEWaukee and WEDC, event attendance up 50%.
- > 3 Bazaar After Dark night markets with total estimated attendance of 25,000.
- > SOLD OUT 2018 Future 15 event hosted at Outer Edge Stage.

"It is only through the leadership, creativity and consistent willingness to push the envelope displayed by the Fox Cities Chamber that YPWeek has grown to become a national initiative. Every year, we look to the dynamism of the YPWeek Fox Cities programs to demonstrate how inventive the program can become."

- *Angela Damiani, CEO and co-founder, NEWaukee*



MARKETING & EVENTS

- **70+** TOTAL EVENTS
- estimated event attendance: 200,000

- **37** YEARS OF OCTOBERFEST
- > 66% of nonprofit food vendors made \$1,000 or more.
- > \$60,000+ grants awarded to 20 Fox Cities organizations in 2018.

- **7,654** QUARTERLY MAGAZINES DISTRIBUTED

- **428** MEMBER NEWS RELEASES SHARED

- **26** ISSUES OF THE BUSINESS NEWS across 12 Northeast Wisconsin counties

