

JCED BULLETIN

Jones County Economic Development Newsletter

October/November/December 2024

UnityPoint Health – Jones Regional Medical Center Offers Drive-Thru Pharmacy Services

A new pharmacy drive-thru at UnityPoint Health – Jones Regional Medical Center (JRMC) Outpatient Pharmacy offers a convenient solution for residents of Anamosa and surrounding areas to quickly and easily pick up their prescriptions. Located on the hospital's campus at 1791 Highway 64, the JRMC Outpatient Pharmacy has been serving the community since its opening in 2020, providing comprehensive prescription services to both patients and the public.

The drive-thru project had long been a vision for JRMC, as the hospital team continuously seeks ways to enhance patient care and improve access. Connecting with Randy and Nancy Kuehl of Anamosa was instrumental in turning this vision into reality. Their generous gift to Jones Regional Medical Center Foundation provided the critical support needed to bring the project to life. “Randy and Nancy’s gift is so generous and visionary,” said Eric Briesemeister, Jones Regional Medical Center CEO. “The Kuehl Family understands that many times, patients don’t pick up their prescriptions because of a lack of access. This new drive-thru allows for quick, easy access for patients after their visit to our Emergency Room, Urgent Care, or Family Practice. The Kuehl’s concern for community well-being will positively impact thousands of patients in the years to come.”

“Working with the Kuehl’s on this project has been such a pleasure!” said Amy Keltner, Community Development Director of Jones Regional Medical Center. “It’s exciting to see their vision come to life and enriching our services to benefit patients in remarkable ways. I’m thrilled to support this process and the Kuehl family’s dream for our community.”

From the early planning stages to completion, the JRMC team remained committed to ensuring the drive-thru would provide greater convenience, efficiency, and service for patients and community members. “Our family enthusiastically supports community convenience. Eric and Amy’s advice and direction on the pharmacy upgrade was invaluable,” said Randy and Nancy Kuehl. The Kuehl Family, known for their history of giving back to the Eastern Iowa community, are also the owners of Randy Kuehl Honda in Cedar Rapids.



For individuals looking to take advantage of the new drive-thru service, they can ask their healthcare provider to transfer their prescription to the JRMC Outpatient Pharmacy, call in their prescription, or patients may bring it to the pharmacy to be filled. This simple process makes getting necessary medications easy. The pharmacy is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon. A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the official opening of the new Jones Regional Medical Center Outpatient Pharmacy drive-thru will be scheduled this fall and provide community members the opportunity to visit the pharmacy and learn more about services available.

To call the JRMC Pharmacy, call (319) 481-6240.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON ITS WAY TO JONES COUNTY!

One of the constant concerns that Jones County Economic Development hears from local businesses is the distance some of the workforce has to commute to get to their jobs. Not only does this mean that transportation can be an issue for workers, but they are not necessarily contributing to our local economies like residents of our communities. Additionally, with the exponential increase in both construction costs and interest rates over the last few years, it has made purchasing a home that much harder, especially for entry-level workers and young people/families.

Affordable housing is defined as spending 30% or less of your income towards housing needs. This means that entry-level and younger workers often have lower salaries that do not allow for this on both the rental and home-buying markets. With home buying more specifically, it means that the housing thresholds they can afford are much lower. Iowa has some older, more dilapidated housing that needs a lot of repairs or new custom-built homes, which are usually beyond the affordable definition. So what type of housing is needed?

The type of housing needed is often called the “missing middle.” This is housing in the \$150,000-\$215,000 range. As most developers and contractors will tell you, it is nearly impossible to build a house at that price in today’s markets. So realizing that this was an issue, Jones County Economic Development reached out to the Homes for Iowa program, a joint program between the State of Iowa and the Newton Correctional Facility to have inmate labor build affordable housing while learning a trade that they can apply upon their release from the institution. These homes are built on-site and trucked to communities across the state. A local developer or organization buys the house, develops the lot, and then sells the home to qualified buyers who meet that affordable definition.

How do buyers qualify? This program is income-driven, meaning that the prospective home buyers must be able to spend that 30% or less on the home. This is different than standardized or Section 8 housing where the government gives assistance to those renters. This program requires buyers to submit tax information on every working person in the household and then a federal table of values is used to determine what the income level needs to be at or under to be able to qualify. Once that person/family fills out the required paperwork and is approved, they can approach their bank about getting a loan for the home. The paperwork will take some time to complete, so the sooner someone gets started, the better.

To date, no Home for Iowa house has been delivered in Jones County, but that will be changing. Working with the City of Monticello, the Monticello Development Corporation, and some local banks, Jones County Economic Development will



be placing a home in Monticello later this year. This home will be on an infill vacant lot near Carpenter Elementary. It will be a three-bedroom, two-bath home that will sit on a full unfinished basement. While the exact model will be slightly different, the home will be similar to the one in the picture above.

Jones County Economic Development hopes this house will help spur creative thinking in communities on other infill lots and making them accessible to affordable housing like the Home for Iowa program. Additionally, this program will help attract people back to the communities where they already work and take away some of the hassle of the commute back and forth to where they currently reside.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the Home for Iowa house coming to Monticello or would like to start paperwork to see if you are income-qualified, please reach out to Jones County Economic Development Executive Director, Derek Lumsden, at director@jonescountydevelopment.com or via phone at 319-480-7446.

GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR QUALIFIED BUSINESSES!

Running a business is hard. You have to manage every aspect of the business and keep your passion levels high to stay motivated and focused. If you were able to do so, would you like to reduce the cost of running your business?

If so, then you should connect with Terenc. This organization will help determine if your business qualifies for grant funding to be able to Update Equipment, Increase Resiliency, and Save Money through the USDA REAP program.

Terenc will work with your business to determine program eligibility and walk through all of the steps to help you submit a funding application to the program. The best part? There is NO fee for this service.

Terenc empowers rural communities with sustainable energy solutions, making technical information accessible and helping build resilient, thriving communities.

This company is a great resource for qualifying businesses to access grant funding without all the time, hassle, and cost of other grant applications. And with the help of Terenc, this is a FREE service to all qualifying businesses.

If interested, there are flyers on page 6 and 7 of this newsletter where you can scan a QR code for more information. Or you can always call Terenc at 641-999-6393.

(Flyers on Page 6 & 7)

Polo's Impact: Global Health and Local Jobs

Deep in Jones County, Polo Custom Products' Monticello facility is making waves with its blend of innovation, dedication, and life-saving technology. Since opening its doors in 1969, this local business has been a key player in the community, offering stable jobs and boosting the area's economy. Today, it's at the cutting edge of medical device manufacturing, creating advanced products that enhance patient care and survival rates nationwide.

One standout product from Monticello is the FDA Class III wearable defibrillator garment. This garment is a key component of the lifesaving device designed to detect and treat dangerous cardiac arrhythmias. Prescribed to at-risk cardiac patients, this garment allows them to return home protected while awaiting further treatment.

The impact of this garment on patient care is profound. By delivering automatic defibrillation during a sudden cardiac arrest, it has saved numerous lives. The team at Polo Custom Products takes great pride in their role in this process. They even keep a "heart jar," adding a symbol each time a patient reports a life saved by their device. This jar serves as a constant reminder of the real-world difference their work makes.

Behind the scenes, a skilled group of designers and engineers are dedicated to refining these complex medical devices. Their hard work ensures that every product meets the highest standards of quality and reliability, which is crucial for life-saving equipment.



While the wearable defibrillator garment is a highlight, it's just one of many essential products manufactured at Monticello. The facility also produces components for the aviation and safety sectors and specialized gear for military personnel. Whether it's enhancing patient comfort or supporting our armed forces, the products from Monticello are crucial across various industries.

Polo's success reaches beyond the factory floor. From their headquarters in Topeka, Kansas, a committed sales team forges partnerships with leading medical equipment companies around the globe. This international presence not only fuels the company's growth but also brings economic benefits back to Jones County.

As a long-standing employer since 1969, Polo has been a cornerstone of stable, meaningful employment in the community. Their dedication extends beyond job creation, instilling a sense of pride and purpose among employees who know their work is saving lives and enhancing global health.

The economic impact of Polo Custom Products on Jones County is significant. Beyond direct jobs, the company stimulates the local economy through its supply chain, employee spending, and community involvement. As the company continues to innovate and expand, it remains a key driver of economic growth and stability in the region.

In summary, Polo Custom Products' Monticello facility exemplifies how advanced manufacturing can drive global health improvements and local economic development. By producing life-saving medical devices and other vital products while supporting its workforce and community, Polo continues to be a crucial asset to Jones County and a leader in the manufacturing industry.



OPEN HOUSE

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 12
10AM-1PM**

**PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR NEW
SHAO FAMILY DENTAL LOCATION
FOR TOURS AND BREAKFAST!**

600 OLD DUBUQUE ROAD ANAMOSA, IA

The Jones County Young Professionals are ending 2024 with a bang!

On November 6th, join us to hear about how to market more effectively. A great way to learn more from another young professional. Please make sure to RSVP so we have a head count for food by Friday, November 1st. RSVP to director@jonescountydevelopment.com

(Flyer on Page 5)

Contact Us

Jones County Economic Development has two convenient offices:

107 S. Ford Street in
Anamosa inside City Hall

200 E. 1st Street in
Monticello inside City Hall

Our Executive Director, Derek Lumsden, can also be reached by Phone at 319-480-7446 or by email at: director@jonescountydevelopment.com

Marketing Speaker

Learn from Alex at Mak Marketing how to grow your business by creating a story that reaches others.



Date: Wednesday, November 6th

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Metal Designs

103 Chamber Drive, Anamosa

Food Provided

CREATING

*Logo and Brand Design
Promotional Handouts
Print Advertisements
Websites*

CONNECTING

*Email Marketing
Social Media Content
Event Planning
Ambassador Program*

STRATEGIZING

*Radio & News Release
Community
Partnerships
Customer Relations
SEO & Analytics*

Sponsored by





Grant Funding

USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides money for energy efficiency investments in rural businesses.

Reduce the Cost of Running Your Business

1: Update Equipment

2: Increase Resiliency

3: Save Money

What can Terenc do for you?

At no cost to you, **Terenc will connect all the dots**, determine program eligibility and schedule energy assessments performed by certified professionals, including a thorough on-site audit.

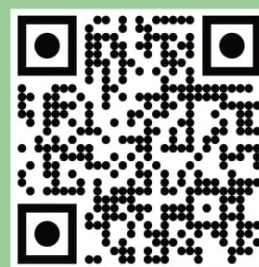
How does the process work?

Based on energy audits and proposals from contractors you select, **Terenc will help you apply for funding**. We will lead the way in writing and submitting your USDA REAP funding application.

You continue to **manage your business** and **focus on your passion**.

44% 44% of commercial energy use in the US is consumed by businesses residing in buildings smaller than 50,000 square feet

Scan to get started

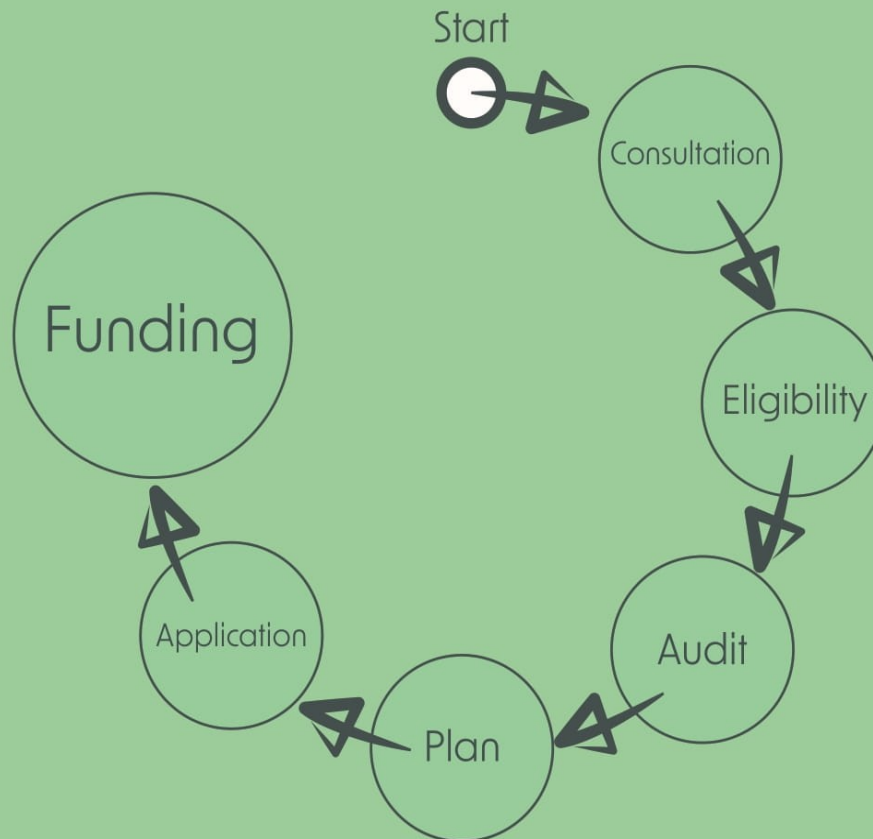


Why Terenc?

We empower rural communities with sustainable energy solutions, making technical info accessible and helping build resilient, thriving communities.

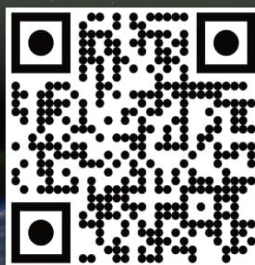
Or Call 641-999-6393

The Process at a Glance



Our team knows the USDA REAP program inside out. We will hire and coordinate with an energy auditor for you. If the audit shows your business is a good fit for funding, we'll guide you through the federal grant or loan application process step by step. Have a contractor you trust? We'll help them format their bids to meet program requirements, or you can choose from any certified service provider. Let's make your business more energy-efficient and resilient.

Contact us today
to get started



Terenc
PO Box 91
Bloomfield, IA 52537
641-999-6393
Terenc.com

Or Call 641-999-6393

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