

SICOG Staff

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**30 IDEAS**

**IN**

**30 MINUTES**

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Southern Iowa Council of Governments

* **The Local Economic Development group could create a business plan for a business that’s never in the community, and market it to bring a new business to the community.**
* Create window displays on vacant buildings to convince or persuade people to put a business in that building.
* **Host a zoom room for business roundtables. One or two times a month, where entrepreneurs can drop in, and discuss a particular topic for each meeting.**
* Pop up stores, and perhaps connect regionally for a “round robin”.
* **Create venture capital, equity investment program.**
* Increase long term, school/economic development/chamber/entrepreneur collaboration.
* **Expand Co-Working Space. Can be done in: Libraries, School rooms, etc.**
* Create a survey to see if there is a need for more co-working space.
* **Create an inventory of available remote work jobs. Promote these jobs online**.
* Cross market co-workspaces in region.
* **Team up with internet providers on costs and infrastructure, giving them naming rights for location.**
* Improve overall access and quality of broadband.
* **Create a remote work job fair or Zoom fair.**
* Use school alumni newsletters to provide job information or a list of remote work in the community.
* **Create a** “**How to” resource for mentorship/apprenticeship programs.**
* Create a “How to” hire/education package for businesses to hire high school graduates.
* **Create info packets based on local jobs for guidance counselor offices.**
* Create short, with current employees’, videos that explain the jobs, benefits, and lifestyle it provides for them.
* **Compare on charts/videos, the cost of living where they grew up to the cost of living where they want to live.**
* Career fairs. Work with community, college, and locals to host.
* **Host summer job fairs.**
* Develop housing incentive for young families, or young adults who are right out of high school.
* **Survey or ask young adults what additional amenities would make them stay in the community.**
* Develop Housing modernization program.
* **Focus on the top two demographics who need housing.**
* Support Accessory Dwelling Units (Sometimes called “granny pads” and can be portable.)
* **Establish a stormwater utility, using it to fund stormwater projects and to match grants.**
* Help locals understand the value younger people put on walkability. (Trails/Sidewalks/Streets.)
* **Create a downtown assessment/plan with a vision of what each block will look like in twenty years.**
* Survey the community/region for a trails plan.