



Welcome and Call to Order	Jerry Melick, WeLead President Ken Brooks, WeLead Executive Director
West Liberty Chamber of Commerce	Charles Brooke, COO
West Liberty Community Schools	Shaun Kruger, Superintendent
Muscatine County Update	Kurt Kirchner
West Liberty Foods Update	Brandon Achen
WeLead President's Report	Jerry Melick, President
WeLead Annual Report	Ken Brooks, Executive Director
State of the City Address	Hon. Ethan Anderson, Mayor
Round-Robin	Announcements from the Room
Adjournment	Jerry Melick, President



Thank you to West Liberty Foods  
for sponsoring the  
West Liberty Business Association Luncheons

WEST LIBERTY  
FOODS™

EST. 1996



SIGNATURE PROTEINS



**CHARLES BROOKE**

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**





2023  
THEME

**WOULD YOU GO WITH  
ME...TO THE FAIR?**

**JULY 19-23, 2023**

WEST LIBERTY, IOWA

2023  
FAIR

Muscatine  
**FAIR**  
County



# SUMMER EVENTS





# **JULY & AUGUST**

**July 14-16th All Class Reunion**

**July 16th MCF Parade**

**July 16th Picnic in the Park**

**July 19-23rd Muscatine County Fair**

**July 29th RAGBRAI L**

**August 24th Annual Golf Tournament**



**Farmers Market Wednesday's/First Friday's**







# *Volunteers* RAGBRAI 50 *West Liberty*



Sign up to help at our Activities area, Information booths, or keeping the streets clean.

Date: Saturday, July 29th  
Time: Between 4am- 2pm

CITY OF WEST LIBERTY +





**SHAUN KRUGER**  
SUPERINTENDENT





# West Liberty Community School District





# Enrollment Served



**West Liberty Community Growth= More students - Voucher moves**  
**We stayed the same between this year and last year-**  
**Anticipate Trend Upward**



# Instructional Programming

Next Year- 25th year of **Dual Language**- longest running in Iowa

Top Rated **FFA** in the State of Iowa, Mr. Morris is Iowa Ag Teachers President, Mrs. Arthur-Miller received a State Award for support of FFA

Continuing with **Curriculum Adoption** cycles

Social Studies, Math and Language Arts at certain grade levels

## Legislation

Interpret new laws affecting Iowa Public Schools: Chapter 12, TLC, Transparency,

Staff Certification, Instructional Materials, Student Social-Emotional Well-being

**Growing and Improving**- working hard to live those words so we can be our best for our students, because they deserve the best.





# Facilities/Capital Projects

New Pre-K Building  
Elementary Remodel  
Athletic Complex  
Activities Building





# Thank You

Community Support

Partnering with Our School District

If warranted- Thank a Teacher, Para Educator, Cooks, Coach or Bus Driver

Challenging time to be in education, but also a great time!

**Go Comets!!**





# KURT KIRCHNER

COUNTY SUPERVISOR





**BRANDON ACHEN**

**PRESIDENT / CEO**

**WEST LIBERTY  
FOODS™**

EST. 1996



**SIGNATURE PROTEINS**



**JERRY MELICK**  
PRESIDENT





**KEN BROOKS**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**





# WE LEAD

WEST LIBERTY, IOWA

Economic Area Development

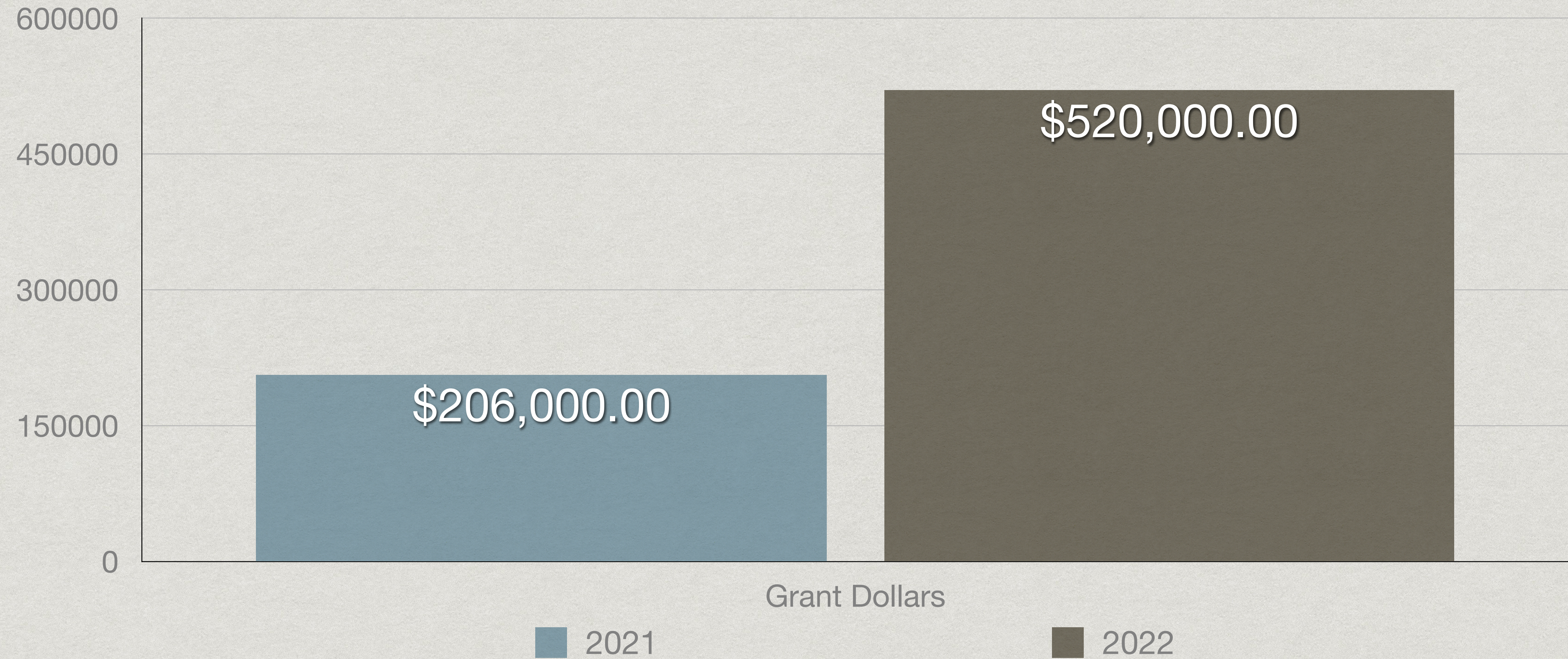


2022

RACING FORWARD!

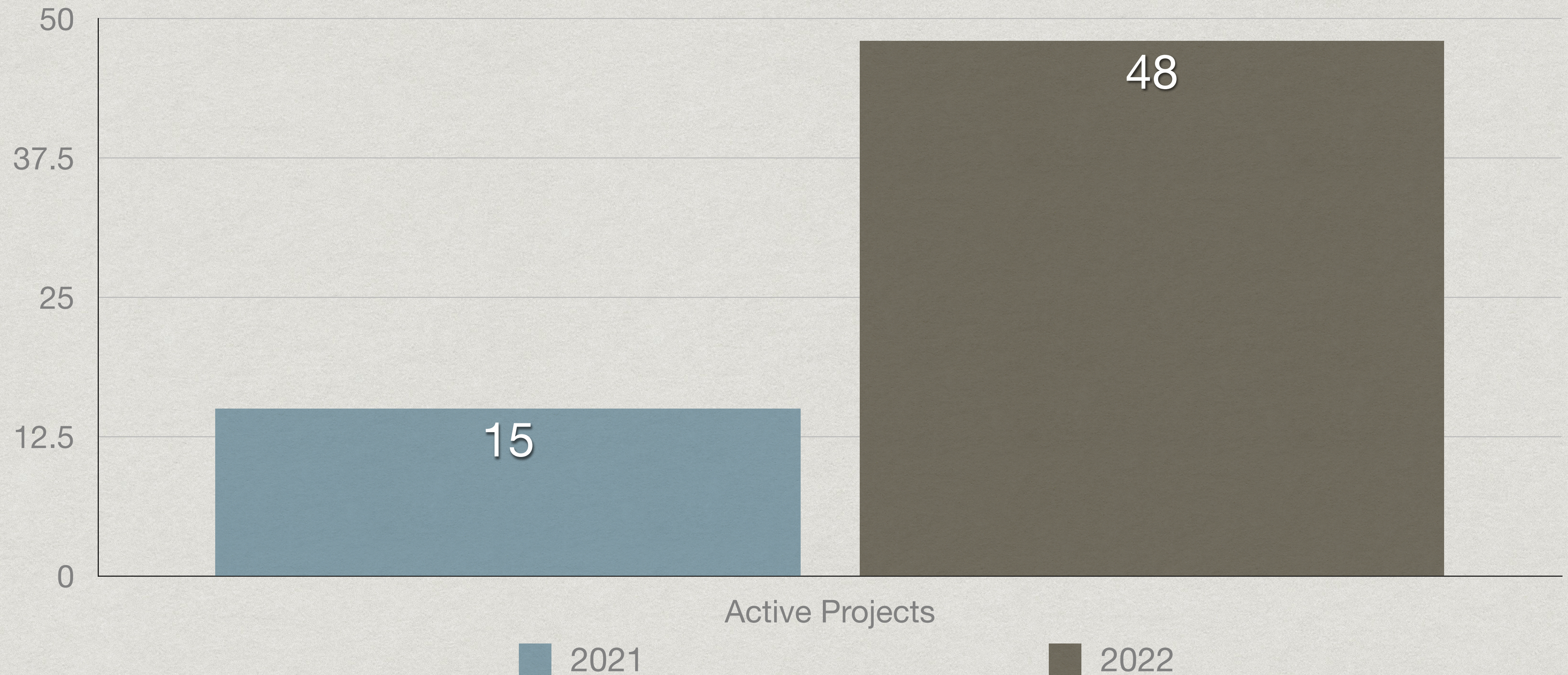


# WeLead Involved Grants





## Active WeLead Projects





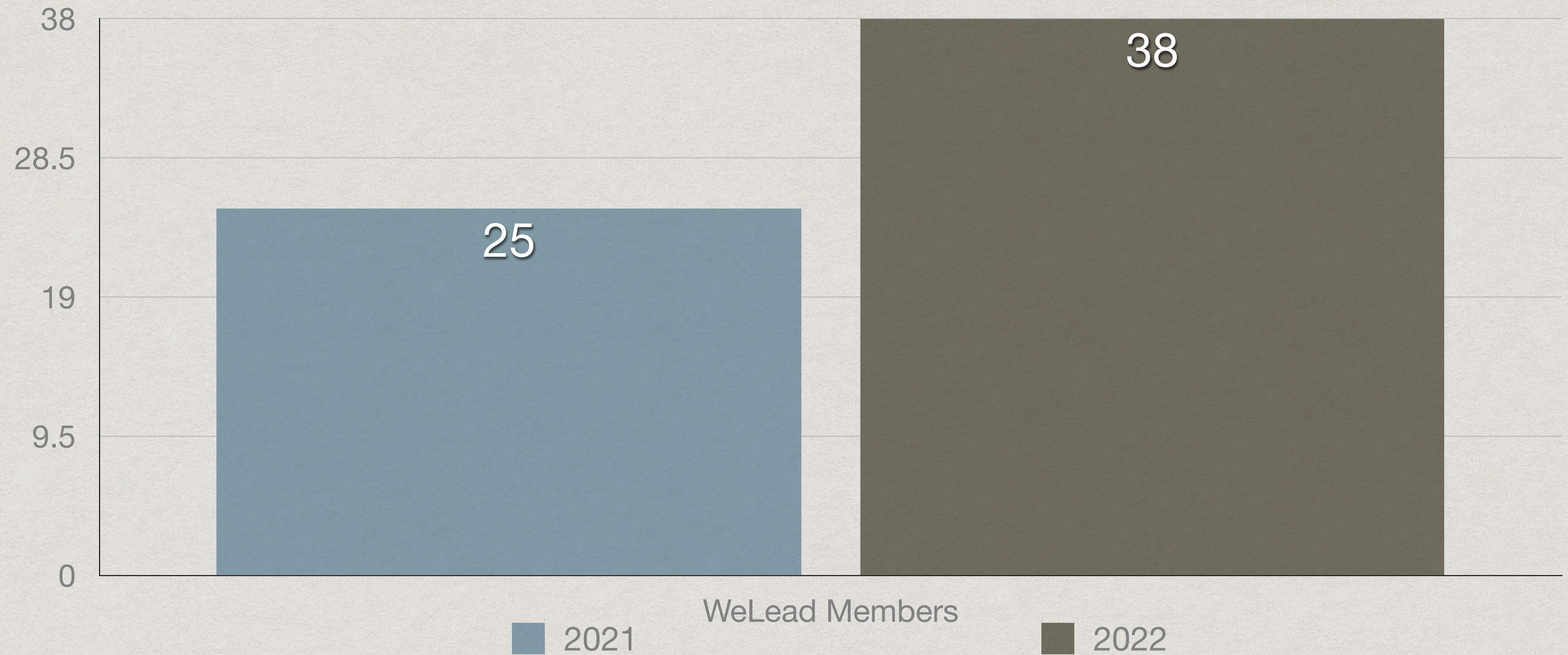
# SEVEN

## NEW BUSINESSES IN WEST LIBERTY IN 2022





## WeLead Members / Investors





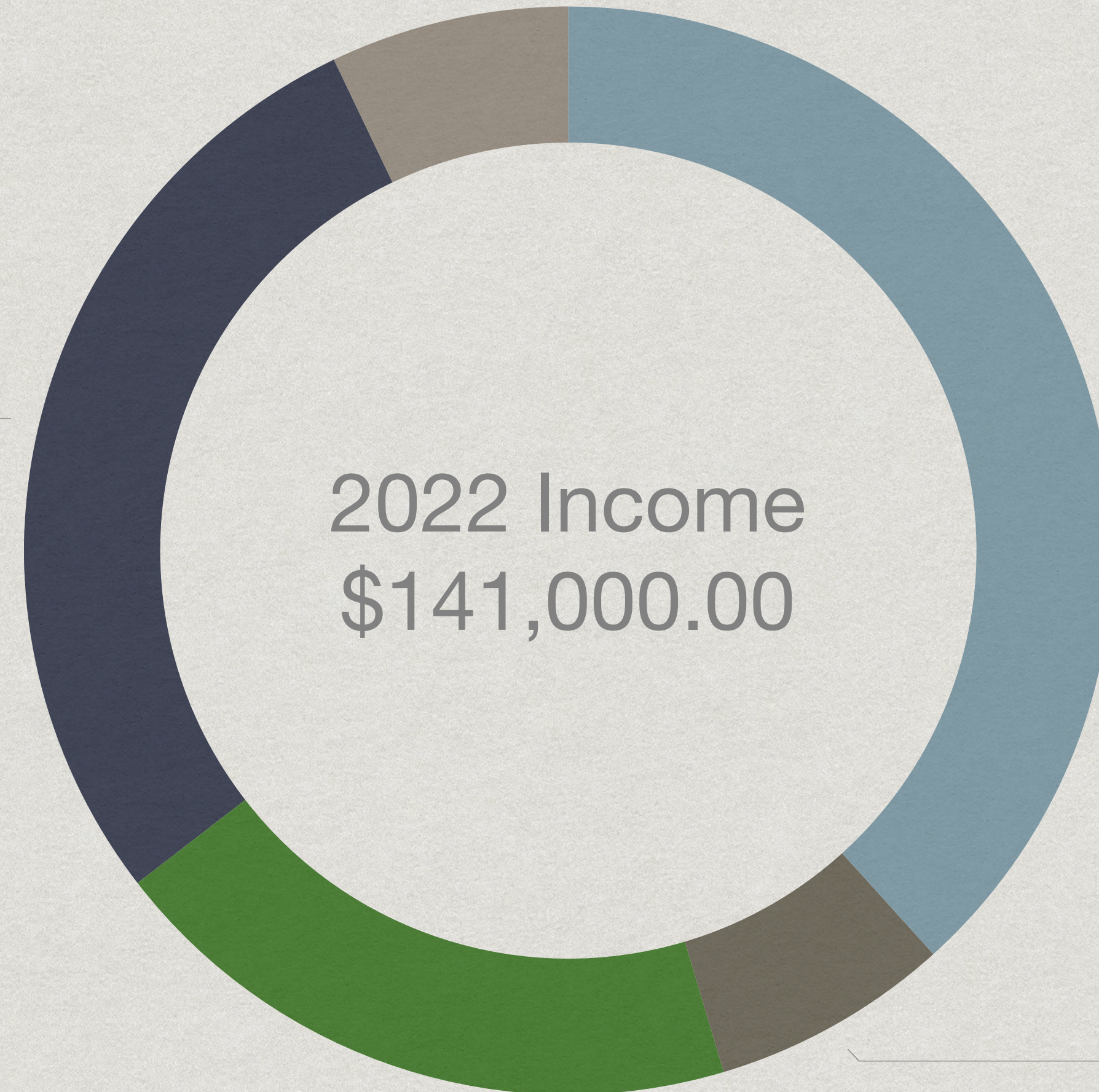
**Program**  
**\$10,000.00**

**Memberships/Donations**  
**\$40,000.00**

**Facilities Rental**  
**\$27,000.00**

**City of West Liberty**  
**\$54,000.00**

**Muscatine County**  
**\$10,000.00**



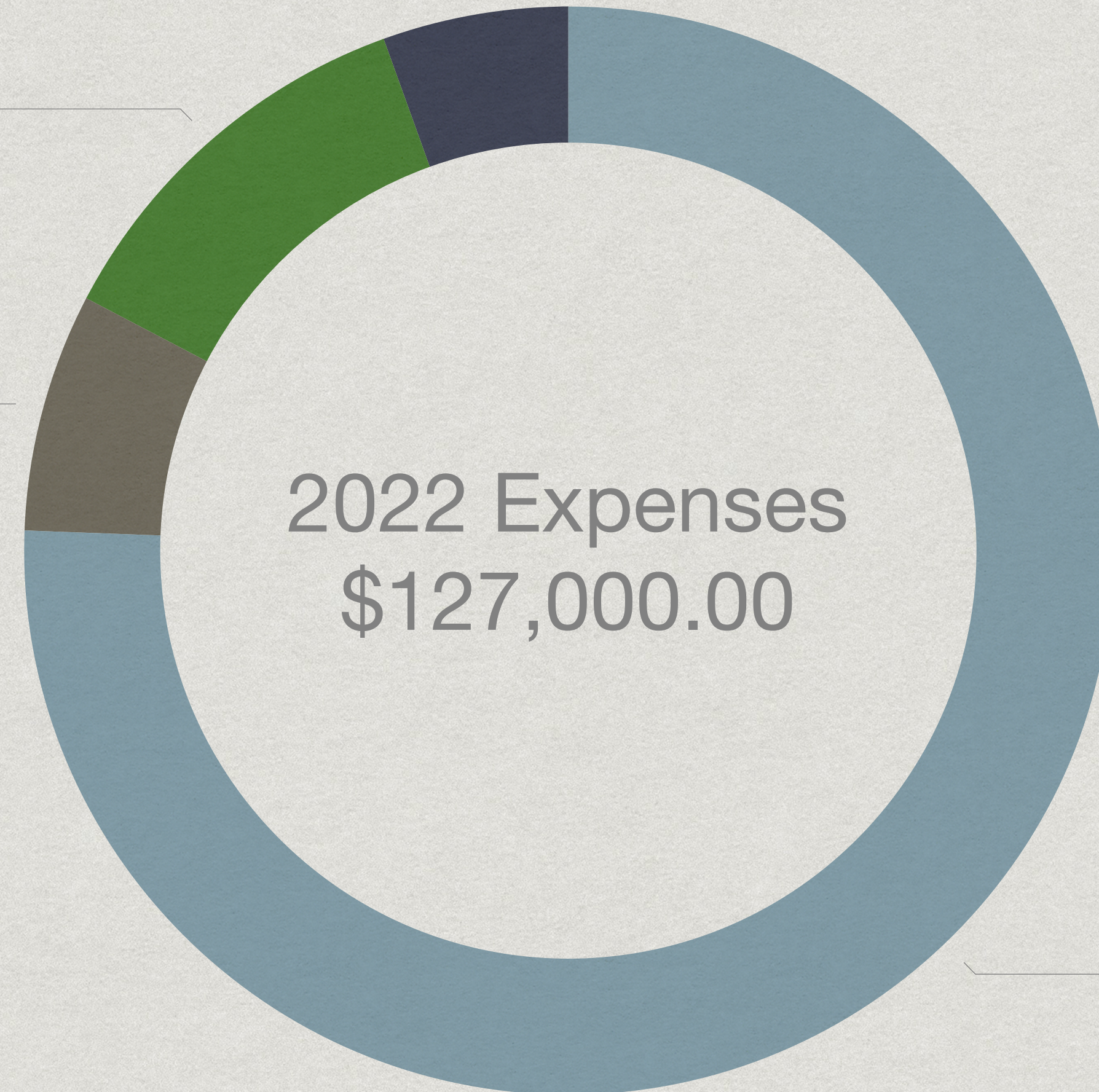


**Insurance**  
**\$7,000.00**

**Facilities**  
**\$15,000.00**

**Taxes**  
**\$9,000.00**

**Programs & Operations**  
**\$96,000.00**



**2022 Expenses**  
**\$127,000.00**

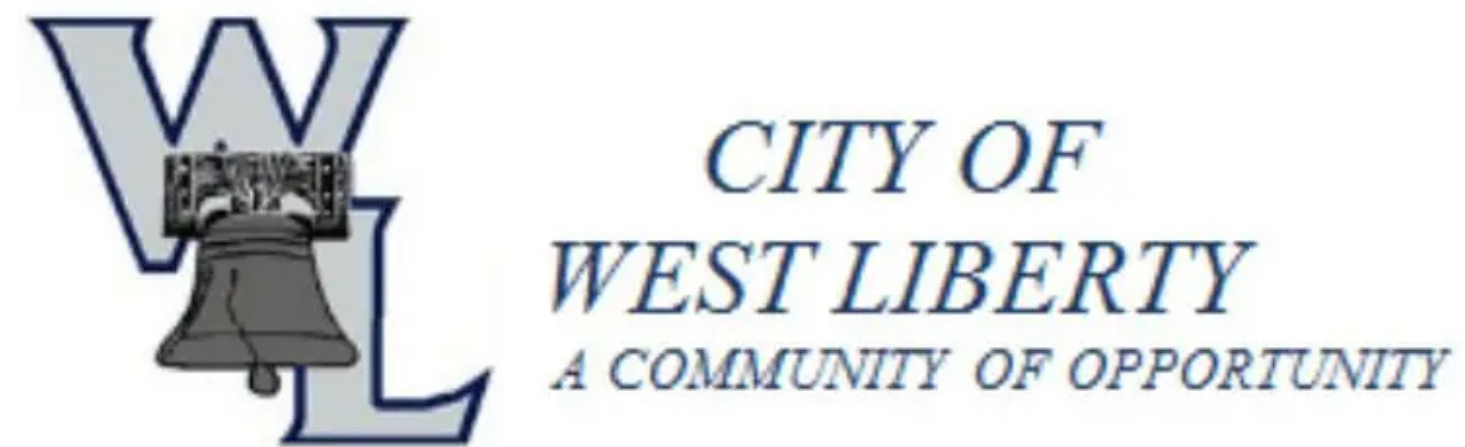




**\$200,000 DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

**317 N SPENCER ST WEST LIBERTY - BROOKE VENTURES**





# **\$120,000 GRANT FOR WEST LIBERTY UTILITY ASSISTANCE**

**CITY COUNCIL APPROVED GRANT TO MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION - GRANT FUNDED BY ARPA DOLLARS**





**\$100,000 CATALYST GRANT**

**115 E 3RD STREET - WLFE INC.**





**\$100,000 COMBINED IN CITY OF WEST LIBERTY URBAN RENEWAL GRANTS**

**WEST ELLE SALON AND BOUTIQUE**





**\$100,000 COMBINED IN CITY OF WEST LIBERTY URBAN RENEWAL GRANTS**

**627 TRAINING FACILITY**





24:11

45:22



West Liberty  
Building Together

West Liberty - Building Together Episode 101

# BUILDING TOGETHER PODCAST

AVAILABLE AT [WWW.WELEADIOWA.ORG](http://WWW.WELEADIOWA.ORG) OR ON YOUR PODCAST APP OF CHOICE





## **SISTER CITIES PROGRAM**

CHARTERED BY WELEAD, AND AN OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF WEST LIBERTY



2023





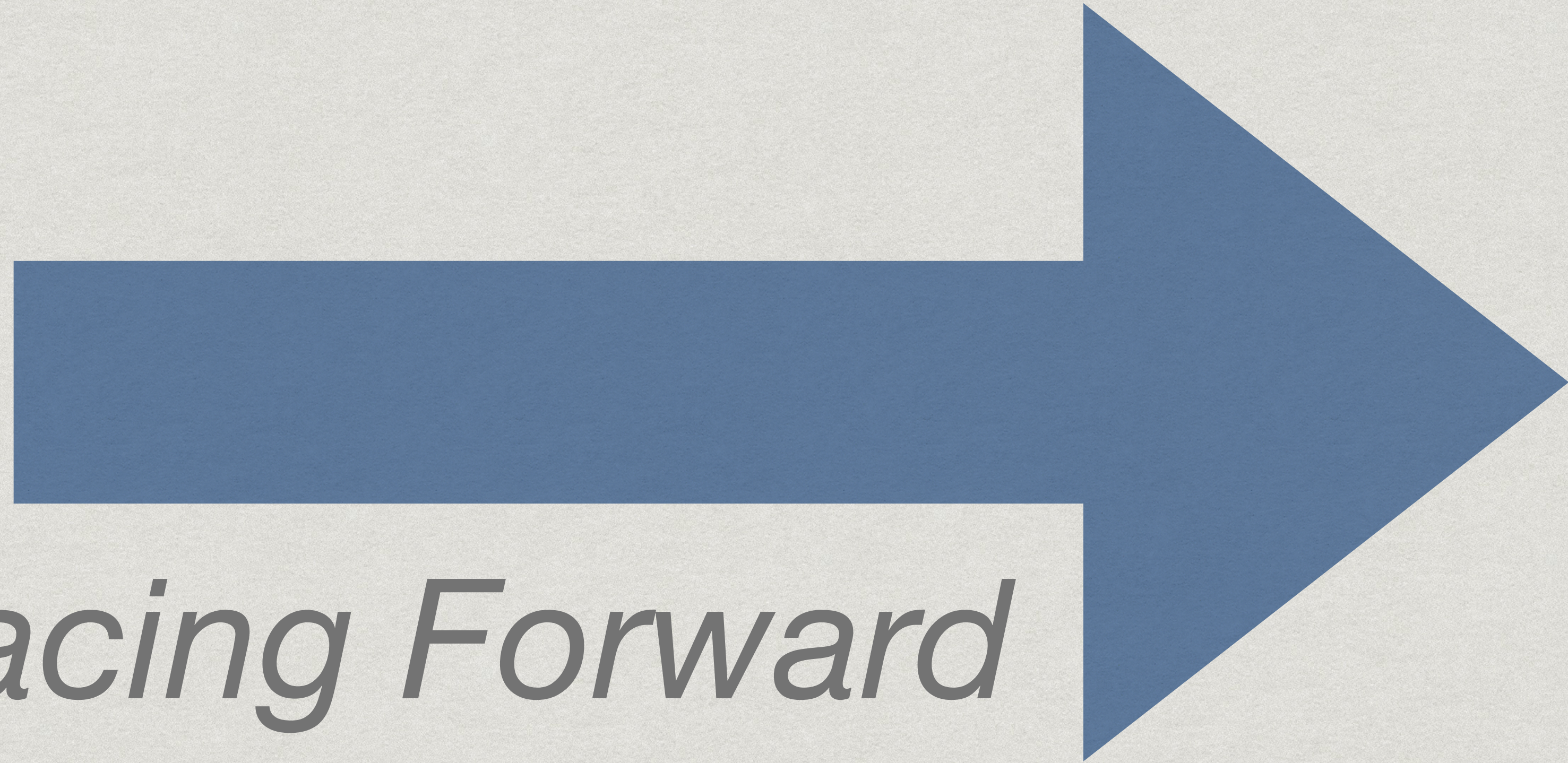
# Building Together



**SEASON 2**

*West Liberty, Iowa*





*Racing Forward*





**MORE THAN 70 HOMES WILL BE BUILT IN WEST LIBERTY IN THE NEXT YEAR**

**BUYSSE/DUTTON, SHORT STREET, THE MEADOWS, OLD TIRE SHOP, 103 E 3RD, 317 N SPENCER**





# 2023 WEST LIBERTY \$100,000 CATALYST GRANT APPLICATION

BIG IMPRINT WAREHOUSE - CREATE COMMERCIAL SPACE AND APARTMENT





# 2023 ATALISSA \$100,000 CATALYST GRANT APPLICATION

FORMER CORNER TAP BUILDING - RENOVATE RESTAURANT AND CREATE TWO APARTMENTS





# GROWTH AT LIBERTY PARK

WELCOME DHG CONSTRUCTION, AND MORE TO COME!





**OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT**

2021



The future is...

*2023*



The future is here.

*2023*





MISSION ACCOMPLISHED





West Liberty - We Did it!



West Liberty – We're Doing it!



West Liberty - Just Do It!



# West Liberty - Just Do It!





West Liberty - We are  
awesome, and we're just  
getting started!



# WELEAD'S 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Melick  
*President*

Dana Nelson  
*Vice President*

Melody Russell  
*Secretary*

Jeff Schebler  
*Treasurer*

## *Directors*

Tom Alberti

Jason Cassady

David Dvorak

Lee Geertz

Kurt Kirchner

Shaun Kruger

Cara Mcferren

Santos Saucedo  
*Past President*

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Charles Brooke  
*Chamber of Commerce Represenative*

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Ken Brooks  
*Executive Director*

*thank  
you*

# 2023 WELEAD MEMBERS

As of May 9, 2023. Membership Applications are accepted year-round.

## Gold Level Members



Muscatine County



## Silver Level Members

Active Health  
Spine & Sport

Cardinal  
Sign & Graphics

Dave Dvorak  
Farms

Eastern Iowa  
Light & Power

Emily Geertz  
and Frank Wagner

Giri LLC

Hills Bank

Iowa Interstate  
Railroad

Liberty Park

SGA Construction

Simpson Home

Liberty Public House

## Bronze Level Members

Fuerza Functional Fitness  
Bill & Janet Koellner  
Savor by Chef D

Jerry Melick & Sandee Buysee  
Rotary Club of West Liberty  
Shop 121

Keel Law Office  
Sara Sedlacek - Edward Jones  
Woodruff Construction

## Community Level Members

Brandon & Kira Achen, Tom & Donna Alberti, Ken & Katie Brooks, Jake & Autumn Burroughs, GreenState Credit Union, Priscilla Haessig, Shaun & Jennifer Kruger, Jan Largent, Melick Foundation, Nollman Ag & Cattle, Melody Russell, Wayne Steen, Phyllis Sterna, Michael Tharp, West Liberty Arts Council, West Liberty Index, Pam Wever

*Thank you for investing in our community!*



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www.weleadiaowa.org  
119 E. 3rd Street,  
West Liberty, Iowa 52776



**ETHAN ANDERSON**

**MAYOR**



*CITY OF  
WEST LIBERTY  
A COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITY*



# **WE LEAD**

**WEST LIBERTY, IOWA**



## **Economic Area Development**