



COMMON AGENDA

Increasing Educational Attainment in Ottumwa

Urgency for Change:

By 2025, 68% of all Iowa jobs will require at least some college; a college diploma/certificate, an associate’s degree, bachelor’s degree or advanced degree (Iowa: Education and Workforce Trends through 2025, Carnevale et. Al, 2015). According to census data, only 24.1% of Ottumwa’s population over the age of 25 has an associate’s degree or higher. In order to meet this demand for educated workers, as well as build and sustain a vibrant and healthy community, C³ must ensure that all students know and understand the steps to pursue and complete a college degree or credential.

Purpose:

C³ will:

- Create a college-going culture in the community that values degree and/or credential completion.
- Identify and remove barriers that prevent students from pursuing college degrees and/or credentials.
- Coordinate a set of college access and success services and activities that encourage the pursuit and completion of college degrees and/or credentials.
- Inform Ottumwa residents about pathways that lead to local employment and careers.

Goals:

1. Increase the percentage of Ottumwa 8th grade students who intend to pursue college degrees or credentials.
2. Increase the percentage of Ottumwa graduating seniors who enroll in a college degree or credential program anytime during the first year after high school.
3. Increase the percentage of Ottumwa graduating seniors who complete college degrees or credentials within six years of high school.
4. Increase the percentage of Ottumwa residents who have college degrees and/or credentials by the next census.

Shared Objectives and Metrics

- Ensure that Ottumwa students, who intend to pursue college degrees and/or credentials in 8th grade, maintain their commitment to do so in high school and subsequently enroll in postsecondary education.
- Increase the percentage of Ottumwa students who take college entrance exams during high school.
- Increase the percentage of Ottumwa graduating seniors who complete the FAFSA by July 1.
- Increase the percentage of 11th grade students who meet Iowa Assessment proficiency levels in reading and math.
- Increase the percentage of Ottumwa students who persist for a second year of postsecondary education.
- Increase the percentage of Ottumwa students graduate from an accredited college program.

Signed by Stakeholder Council on March 8th, 2016

<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>David Bradford, Factory Manager John Deere Ottumwa</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Tom Rubel, Interim Superintendent Ottumwa Community Schools</p>
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Mark Douglas, Center Director Job Corps</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Jon Sheldahl, Chief Administrator Great Prairie AEA</p>
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Brian Dunn, Executive Director Sieda Community Action</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Jennifer Snead, Operations Manager Iowa Workforce Development</p>
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Himar Hernandez, Community Development Specialist Iowa State University Extension</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Marlene Sprouse, President Indian Hills Community College</p>
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Tom Lazio, Mayor City of Ottumwa</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Sharon Stroh, Executive Director Ottumwa Economic Development Corporation</p>
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Brad Little, President Ottumwa Regional Legacy Foundation</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Matt Thompson, Board Member United Way of Wapello County</p>
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Amy Nossaman, Regional Director Buena Vista University</p>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Randy Zorn, Plant Manager JBS</p>