



Invest in Iosco

Community. Synergy. Solutions.

September 2026

OUR MISSION is to promote economic development in Iosco County, Michigan.

ONGOING INITIATIVES

Childcare



Develop Iosco (DI) leads the Sunrise Side Child Care Coalition, bringing partners together to address child care needs across Northeast Michigan. Recent efforts include completing child care needs assessments in Plainfield Township and Whittemore, supporting the Early Educator Wage Initiative, and interviewing regional funders as we work toward establishing a Child Care Funders Collaborative.



DI also helped form the Child Care Back Office (CCBO), which has grown into a leader in child care solutions and serves as the Region 3 facilitator hub for MI Tri-Share.

For more details on DI's child care initiatives, visit develop-iosco.org/child-care

Countywide Tourism & Recreation



Develop Iosco continues to bring tourism partners together from across the county to share information, identify opportunities, and strengthen collaboration.

Our Tourism Committee provides a countywide forum for communities, attractions, businesses, and organizations to discuss tourism priorities, share updates, and work together to strengthen Iosco County as a destination.



executivedirector@develop-iosco.org
www.develop-iosco.org





Invest in Iosco

Community. Synergy. Solutions.

September 2026

Grant Writing Support



Develop Iosco helps turn local ideas into funded projects. Through grant writing, technical assistance, and connections to funding opportunities, DI has helped bring \$6,739,430 in grant funding to Northeast Michigan to date.

DI also builds local grant-writing capacity through free grant writing workshops for businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations. Recorded workshops and other grant resources are available online for anyone looking to strengthen their grant-writing skills.

For more details, grant resources, and workshop recordings, visit develop-iosco.org/grants-1

Youth & Entrepreneurship



Develop Iosco is investing in the next generation of entrepreneurs through partnerships, programming, and hands-on opportunities. In partnership with Alpena Community College – Oscoda Campus, DI is building on the success of the Imagine ME! Youth Entrepreneurship Fest with the 2026 Imagine ME! Spark Tank Challenge, giving youth and adults an opportunity to develop, pitch, and compete for funding for their ideas.

For more details, visit develop-iosco.org.

ADVOCACY

Develop Iosco is a full partner in the Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance, ensuring Iosco County has a voice in regional and statewide policy discussions.

Our advocacy focuses on issues important to rural communities, including housing, child care, workforce development, infrastructure, economic development, talent attraction and retention, and community investment. DI also works directly with state and federal partners to advocate for projects, resources, and policies important to Iosco County.

N★RTHERN
MICHIGAN
CHAMBER
ALLIANCE



www.develop-iosco.org





Invest in Iosco

Community. Synergy. Solutions.

September 2026

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Develop Iosco works to increase housing opportunities by connecting developers, property owners, local governments, lenders, and partners with funding, technical assistance, and resources to move projects forward.

Housing Iosco



DI's Housing Iosco Meetups bring developers, local officials, lenders, and housing partners together for practical conversations about funding, zoning, development tools, and strategies to create more housing.

Moving Projects Forward



DI provided grant writing and technical assistance that helped secure \$420,000 in MSHDA MI Neighborhood funding to create 10 new affordable workforce rental units in Baldwin Township.

DI continues to support small and emerging developers, helping identify potential projects, overcome development barriers, and build a stronger pipeline of housing throughout Iosco County.

For more details, visit <https://develop-iosco.org/housing-iosco>

BECOME A DEVELOP IOSCO MEMBER

Members help make countywide economic development work possible while gaining access to connections, resources, funding information, promotion, and opportunities to collaborate with leaders throughout the county.

DI has 86 active members including 13 municipalities
DI Membership increased by 46% in 2026

Business memberships start at \$200. Join at <https://develop-iosco.org/join-1>



www.develop-iosco.org





Active Membership

Community. Synergy. Solutions.

September 2026

Develop Iosco is supported by a growing network of businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions, local governments, and individuals committed to strengthening Iosco County.

BUSINESSES

3 Bear Trucking LLC
Alpena Community College
AuSable Hardware
B Trendy Boutique
Coleman's Beach Resort
Consumers Energy Foundation
Crusecom Technology Consultants
Cynthia Irwin LLC
Dangler Guys
DTE Foundation
Fun First Therapy
G. Brooks & Associates LLC
Great Lakes Insurance of MI
Huntington Bank
Huron Community Bank
Klenow Excavating
Mermaid Coast Cottages
Northland Area Federal Credit Union
O'Connors
Perceptions Agency
PNC Bank
Spark Performance Solutions
Tawas Bay Beach Resort
TCA Insurance
The Buckhorn Inn
Tiny Rebels Childcare, LLC
T. L. Cummings, Inc.

INDIVIDUALS

Michelle Bacarella	Lary Holland
Blinda Baker	Nancy Howse
Vicki Seltz Barnes	Shannon Klenow
Amanda Bergeron	Nina O'Loughlin
Rich Castle	Frances Ommani
Natasha Hardy	Julie Ulman

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

AuSable River International Canoe Marathon
Child Care Back Office (CCBO)
Downtown Oscoda Beautification
Eastern National Forest Interpretive Association
Empowering Health
Hale Area Schools
Heritage Coast Sailing & Rowing
Huron Housing Hope
Iosco-Arenac District Library
Iosco County Coats for Kids
Iosco County Commission on Aging
Iosco County Medical Care Facility
Iosco Exploration Trail
Iosco Regional Education Service Agency
MyMichigan Health
Northern MI Children's Assessment Center
Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency
Oscoda Area Schools
Oscoda-AuSable Chamber of Commerce
Oscoda Buzz Hub
Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority
Palomino Hope
Pegasus Springs Therapeutic Riding Center
Strangers No Longer - Belong
Sunrise Side Animal Rescue
Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce
Tawas Area Schools
Tawas Area Rotary
Tawas Bay Players
Tawas Wellness Warriors
The Community Hub
WE Players
Whittemore Chamber of Commerce
Wurtsmith Air Museum
T. L. Cummings, Inc.

GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

Alabaster Township	City of Tawas City	Plainfield Township
AuSable Township	City of Whittemore	Wilber Township
Baldwin Township	Grant Township	Village of Lincoln
Burleigh Township	Iosco County	
City of East Tawas	Oscoda Township	