



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

*Powered by The Right Place*

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

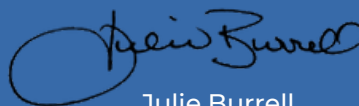
# To our investors and partners,

Since 2015, leaders in Newaygo County have collaborated with The Right Place to drive long-term job creation and overall economic prosperity. These efforts have resulted in several business retention, expansion and attraction projects, totaling over \$122,649,353 in capital investment, and 660 new and retained jobs.

In 2022, this collaboration was enhanced, with the establishment of the Newaygo County Economic Development Partnership. This new structure provides an opportunity to build upon past momentum, elevating our efforts and continuing to drive Newaygo County's economy forward.



John P. Buckley, Jr.  
Board Chair



Julie Burrell  
Economic Development Director

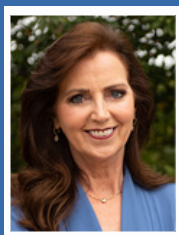
## Newaygo County Economic Development Partnership Board Members



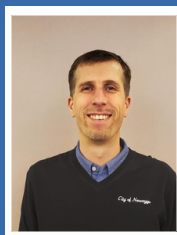
John P.  
Buckley Jr  
Gerber Federal  
Credit Union



Mike Kruithoff  
Newaygo  
County  
Commissioner



Shelly  
Kasprzycki  
Fremont Area  
Community  
Foundation



Jon Schneider  
City of  
Newaygo



Kevin Karrip  
G-M Wood  
Products

### Vision

Newaygo County & surrounding areas will have a diverse and resilient economy, providing economic accessibility and opportunities for upward mobility for all.

### Mission

To drive sustainable economic growth in Newaygo County & surrounding areas.

# Project Spotlight

Quality Finishing Systems, a 2nd generation family-owned industrial equipment manufacturer expanded their operations on 136th street in Ashland Township, near Grant.

After continual expansion of their customer base throughout the pandemic, and acquiring additional land in 2020, Quality Finishing Systems broke ground on a 9,600 sq ft expansion in December 2022. Throughout this process, the NCEDP provided technical assistance and assisted in securing \$99,679 in workforce development assistance from Michigan Works! West Central.



## David Courson “

Being founded in Grant, it was important to our family to find a solution to grow our business and stay in Newaygo County. Julie Burrell and her team at The Right Place have been instrumental in making this happen. When this project is complete, this expansion will allow us to meet our current sales volume and continue to grow in the future, all while keeping us in the community we started in.

# 2022 Highlights

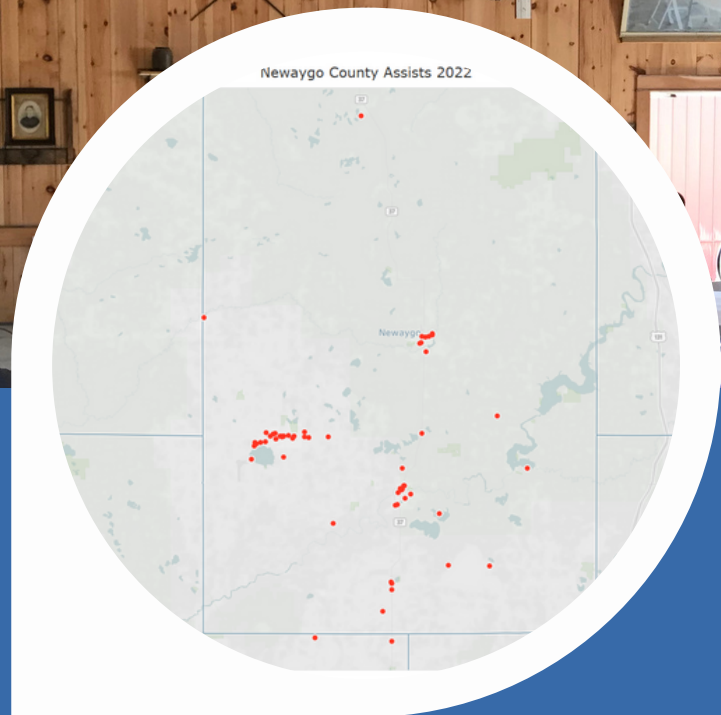
## • Discover Manufacturing

Over 580 students from six schools in Newaygo County took part in tours of local manufacturers during the 6th annual Discover Manufacturing initiative.

## • Pitch North

The 4th annual Pitch North event celebrated a cumulative \$19,000 awarded to Newaygo County start-ups since its inception in 2019. 65% of finalists hail from Newaygo County.

Pictured: Thomas & Deserai Reichard, Northern Rustic Designs | 2022 2nd place winner | Photo Credit: Az Ibrahim



## 2022 Results

**\$600,000**

Capital  
Investment

**10**

New &  
Retained  
Jobs

**\$374,400**

New &  
Retained  
Payroll

**336**

Company  
Assists

**\$759,858**

Indirect  
Monetized  
Assists

# Business Support

Partnering with The Right Place, the NCEDP supports businesses in Newaygo County, providing services including but not limited to:

- State & Local Incentives
- Confidential Site Location Searches
- Local Supply Chain & Partner Opportunities
- Manufacturing Innovation & Operational Improvement

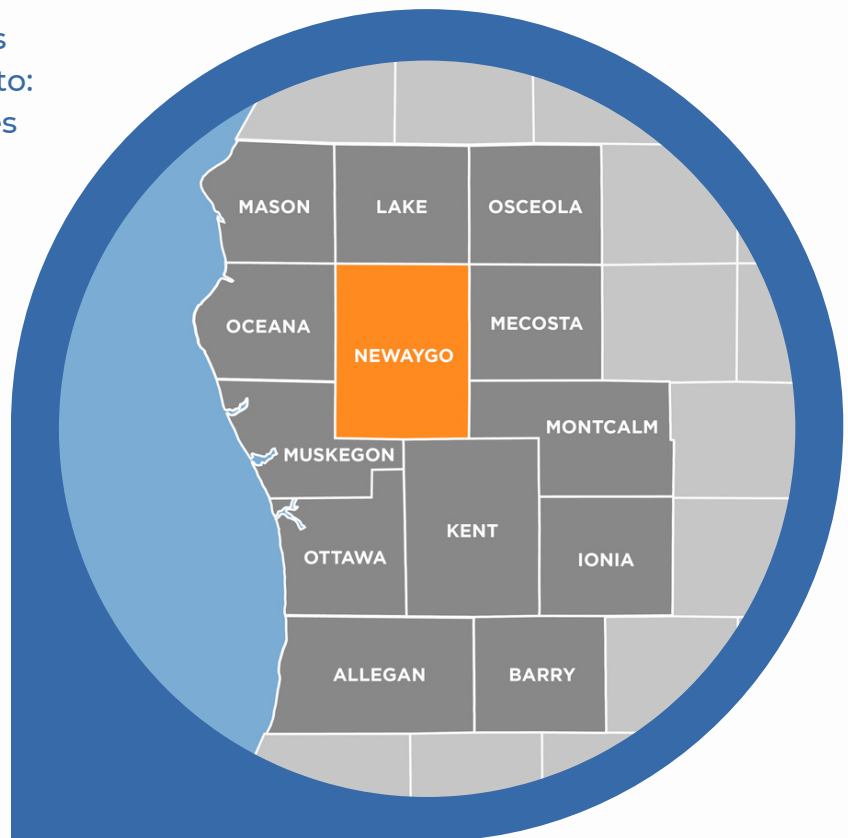
## Priority Focus Areas

Aligning with The Right Place strategies, NCEDP focuses on the following industries

- Advanced Manufacturing, Food Processing & Agribusiness
- Technology
- Health Sciences

In addition to the above, the NCEDP Board has prioritized work in the following areas

- Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction
- Talent Development, Retention, and Attraction
- Strategic Foundations (infrastructure, quality of life, etc)



# Newaygo County

## Local Business Insights

Source: The Right Place

69% are seeing **INCREASING SALES TRENDS**

73% have plans to **EXPAND THEIR BUSINESS**

42% of businesses are experiencing **RECRUITMENT CHALLENGES**

19% of businesses are **INCREASING INVESTMENT IN TRAINING**

## Newaygo County Ranks 13th in Talent Attraction Nationally

Source: Lightcast

- Education Change 2017 to 2021: +22.2%
- Skilled Jobs Average Annual Openings: 572
- Bachelor's Degrees from 2017 to 2021: +32%
- Master's/PhD from 2017 to 2021: +18%
- HS Diploma 2017 to 2022: +7%
- % Change of Job Postings from 2017 to 2021: +31%

## Top 5 Employers

based on employee count. Source: The Right Place

- #1 Magna Mirrors
- #2 Corewell Health Gerber Hospital
- #3 Gerber Life Insurance
- #4 Gerber Products + Nestle Nutrition
- #5 Fremont Public Schools

# Investor Spotlight

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**"Gerber FCU invests in the Partnership in order to grow our community. Growth provides more opportunities for jobs, increased income, better housing, and recreation. As a community-based financial institution, it is imperative that we do all we can to strengthen our community so we can provide upward advancement opportunities for our colleagues."**

**-John P Buckley Jr, President & CEO**



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## 2022 Investors

City of Fremont

City of Grant

City of Newaygo

City of White Cloud

Croton Township

Compass Credit Union

Consumers Energy Foundation

County of Newaygo

DTE Energy

Everett Township

Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce

Fremont Area Community Foundation

Gerber Federal Credit Union

Gerber Life Insurance

H&S Companies

River Country Chamber of Commerce

Riveridge Cider

White & Associates

## Invest in Newaygo County's Growth

To learn more, contact  
Julie Burrell, Economic  
Development Director  
[burrellj@rightplace.org](mailto:burrellj@rightplace.org)  
or scan here to pledge  
your investment today:

