

STUTSMAN COUNTY



January 2026



DEVELOPMENT
JAMESTOWN / STUTSMAN CO.



Introducing Jamestown: Hometown 2.0, a New Guest Blog Series from the JSDC

For generations, Jamestown has been a place defined by strong roots, close connections, and pride in our community. Hometown 2.0 reflects how that idea is evolving. Today, Jamestown is not just where people grew up; it is where people are choosing to build careers, raise families, start businesses, and invest in their future.

Each month, we will feature a young professional who moved to Jamestown, returned to Jamestown, or chose to stay. Through their stories, we will highlight the opportunities, experiences, and community connections that make Jamestown a place to grow both personally and professionally.

We cannot wait for you to meet the people shaping Jamestown's future.

January Hometown 2.0 Feature: Madison

When Madison Cáceres moved to Jamestown in April 2025 for her role as Curator and Herd Manager at the **North American Bison Discovery Center**, she did not expect to find a place she could truly call home, but that is exactly what happened.

Originally from Oklahoma, Madison's career path took her from the Peace Corps to museum work across the country before leading her to Jamestown. What has kept her here, she says, is the welcoming community, the variety of activities, and the personal connections that make Jamestown stand out from larger cities she has lived in.

From caring for the bison herd to enjoying local favorites like trivia nights, thrifting, and movie nights downtown, Madison has fully embraced life in Jamestown. Her

advice to young professionals considering a move is simple: "Do it."

Madison's journey is a strong example of how Jamestown continues to attract and retain talent looking for meaningful work and genuine community.

[Read Madison's full story on our website.](#)



South Central Dakota Regional Council Dues for Stutsman County Approved for Payment

The JSDC Board of Directors voted to recommend the payment of the South Central Dakota Regional Council dues for 2026.

The **South Central Dakota Regional Council** (SCDRC) supports communities across Region VI by providing planning, development, and technical assistance services to local units of government. Serving nine counties in south-central North Dakota, including Stutsman County, the SCDRC helps communities plan for growth, strengthen infrastructure, and prepare for future needs.

Locally, SCDRC collaborates with organizations such as the Jamestown/Stutsman Development Corporation, the City of Jamestown, and Stutsman County to support community and economic development initiatives. Their services include comprehensive and strategic planning, zoning and ordinance development, records management, and emergency operations planning.

SCDRC also plays a crucial role in disaster preparedness and mitigation, assisting communities with FEMA's multi-hazard mitigation planning and disaster mitigation funding. In addition, they provide grant writing and administration services, including Community Development Block Grant programs, helping local projects move from application through closeout.

Through planning support, grant assistance, and regional loan programs that encourage business growth and job creation, SCDRC is a key partner in strengthening Jamestown and surrounding communities and supporting long-term regional success.

Three Applications Approved for Spring 2026 Workforce Pathways Program

The JSDC Board of Directors approved reimbursement funding for three internships at **Shocker Hitch** for Spring 2026, continuing our focus on developing local talent and building strong connections between students and employers. Interns will gain hands-on experience in manufacturing and accounting.



The **Workforce Pathways Program** is an expanded version of JSDC's former Internship Reimbursement Program, designed to better support local employers and strengthen our workforce pipeline. The program provides wage reimbursement of up to \$3,500 to eligible Jamestown and Stutsman County employers who create meaningful, paid work-based learning opportunities. By broadening the program beyond traditional internships, Workforce Pathways helps businesses attract talent, build skills, and retain workers while giving participants hands-on experience that leads to long-term employment.

Watch for the Summer 2026 application to open in the coming months.



What's In The News:



Jamestown airport rebounds in 2025 with nearly 11,600 passenger boardings

The main runway was closed for almost six weeks in 2024.

[Read More](#)



JRMC Recognized as Top Recommended Hospital in the State

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (JRMC) - Jamestown Regional Medical Center (JRMC) has been recognized by Becker's Hospital Review as one of North Dakota's top recommended hospitals, an honor shared only by the Fargo VA Medical Center.

[Read More](#)



2026 Women's Business Conference Coming to Jamestown

The **2026 Women's Business Conference**, hosted by the **Jamestown Regional Entrepreneur Center (JREC)**, will be held March 10–11, 2026, in Jamestown. This two-day event is designed for women entrepreneurs, professionals, nonprofit leaders, and small business owners looking to grow their skills, expand their networks, and gain a fresh perspective.

The conference will take place at the Jamestown Arts Center and will feature a mix of educational sessions, networking opportunities, and local experiences.

Highlights include:

- A keynote session on the State of Health in North Dakota and community-driven solutions
- Sessions on food-based entrepreneurship, organic farming, nonprofit fundraising, leadership, and time management
- An interactive North Dakota tourism experience featuring local Jamestown attractions
- A discussion on AI and digital marketing for small businesses
- Dedicated networking time with fellow business and community leaders

Lunch will be provided on March 11, along with brief introductions from vendor representatives. A hotel room block is available at the Gladstone Inn & Suites for attendees.

WHEN: March 10–11, 2026

WHERE: Jamestown Arts Center, Jamestown, ND

Registration is now open. Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged.

January is National Mentoring Month!

January is National Mentoring Month, a time to highlight the role mentoring plays in workforce development and long-term economic growth. Mentorship helps individuals build skills, confidence, and career pathways while supporting employers in developing a strong and reliable workforce.



In Jamestown and Stutsman County, mentoring connects experienced professionals with students, interns, and early career employees. These relationships provide real-world learning, career guidance, and exposure to local opportunities, helping workers see a future for themselves in our community.

For employers, mentoring supports employee retention, leadership development, and knowledge transfer. For individuals, it strengthens job readiness and creates clearer pathways into high-demand careers. Together, these outcomes help ensure local businesses have the talent they need to grow and succeed.

This National Mentoring Month, the JSDC encourages businesses and community leaders to invest in mentoring as part of their workforce development efforts. Supporting mentorship today helps build a skilled workforce that will drive Jamestown and Stutsman County forward.



January 31 Deadline Approaching for North Dakota Automation Tax Credit

North Dakota businesses that invest in automation may be eligible for a valuable income tax credit of up to 15% of the cost of qualifying manufacturing or animal agricultural machinery and equipment.

The **Automation Tax Credit** is available to certified primary sector businesses that purchase or enter into a capital lease for approved automation or robotic equipment used to improve job quality or increase output in North Dakota. Eligible credits may be carried forward for up to five tax years, and passthrough entities may pass the credit on to owners.

Applications must be fully completed and submitted with all required documentation by January 31 at 5:00 p.m. CST of the year following the equipment's ownership date (for example, equipment acquired in 2025 must be applied for by January 31, 2026). Incomplete applications will not be processed.

The program has an annual statewide cap, and credits may be prorated if demand exceeds available funding. Businesses considering other income tax incentives for the same equipment must withdraw their automation credit application by the deadline. Businesses are encouraged to begin the process early, as portal access can take several business days.

For questions or assistance, contact the **North Dakota Department of Commerce** at 701-328-5300 or **NDEDF@nd.gov**.



Congratulations to the Chamber's Loyal to Local Program on another Record-Breaking Year!

This past holiday season, more than 1,000 passports were turned in, tracking an impressive \$276,910 spent locally across 83 Jamestown businesses. That level of participation and support helped strengthen local jobs, small businesses, and our community during one of the busiest shopping seasons of the year.

Supporting local truly makes a difference in Jamestown!



The **Stutsman-Barnes Women's Leadership Cohort** recently kicked off its first session at the historic Nome School House. Hosted in partnership with the **Jamestown Area Chamber of Commerce** and **Valley City-Barnes County Economic Development**, the session focused on women's leadership foundations through a values-based workshop, local leader panel, and peer connection.

The JSDC is proud to share that Jamie Czapiewski is participating in this inaugural cohort, which brings together women from across the region to strengthen leadership and create lasting local impact.

Upcoming Business Resource Events:

Event:	Date:	Hosted By:
<u>Small Business Training Course: Protecting Your Small Business - Insurance Basics</u>	January 20	<u>JREC</u>
<u>Start Smart with AI</u>	January 28	<u>JREC</u>

<u>Job Service North Dakota's Virtual Job Fair</u>	January 29	<u>Job Service North Dakota</u>
<u>Strong Women, Strong Connections - Jamestown Chapter</u>	February 10	<u>NDWBC</u>
<u>Enhancing Customer Engagement with AI: Personalization and Predictive Analytics - SMART BRAND SYSTEM</u>	February 11	<u>JREC</u>
<u>Founder's Discussion with Moses Johnson of Meticulous Mowing, LLC</u>	February 13	<u>JREC</u>
<u>Intro to ND Compass: Local Data at Your Fingertips</u>	February 18	<u>JREC</u>

On the Search for More Local Events?



Visit Our Website

Jamestown/Stutsman Development Corporation
701.252.6861 | info@growingjamestown.com | www.growingjamestown.com

STAY CONNECTED



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