



Harrison County Development Corporation

Fourth Quarter 2021

Thoughts from the Director.....

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Do you think about Cybersecurity? Whether thinking as a company or an individual it is equally important. Do you wonder if your Firewall is good enough on your home computer? Do you work from home from time to time or you may be working remotely now - do you use your computer or the company's? Do you do banking, personal finance or access other accounts and services by making purchases over the internet? If you answered yes to any of these things you might want to consider brushing up on your cybersecurity. It has become an "issue" rather than something you can just think about in passing. Companies and individuals all across America have seen cyber attacks. You DO NOT need to be a big company to receive ransomware notices.

Do you have a company or even a personal "Emergency Plan" in place? Do you have things figured out in the event of any type of emergency from weather disasters to pandemics? A Resiliency Plan can help you do just that. Both of these issues are covered in this newsletter. HCDC is always looking for ways to help inform, educate and improve the quality of life in Harrison County. We will continue to bring you information and opportunities for you to learn more about these topics soon. Remember by working together we can accomplish great things. Let's make it happen!



HCDC Staff

Renea Anderson,
Executive Director

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Admin. Assistant

Iowa Business Resiliency Toolkit

When disasters happen—fire, flood, tornado or pandemic—are you ready? Is your community, business and development group prepared? The Resiliency Toolkit will help make sure you are. This step by step guide walks you through a comprehensive list of things you need to think about and consider now so that when something unfortunate does occur you are ready. The link is below and if you have further questions you can contact Kristine Stokes with SWIPCO

<https://www.iowaresilience.com/>

RESILIENCE

Strategies and actions for business, government, or development organizations to ensure ongoing viability.





Iowa State University
Center for Industrial Research and Science

Are you still ignoring the word “cybersecurity”? You can’t any longer.

As security breaches continue to occur in industries across the country, the need to assess your company’s level of security becomes increasingly important. Many businesses wonder where to begin with such an assessment, and this is where CIRAS can help.

Our cybersecurity initial business coaching helps businesses understand their current cybersecurity position and shed light on the path needed to secure your data. We can help you understand the level of security your business needs to achieve and identify resources that can assist you with reaching that level. We can also explain the various services provided by cybersecurity firms and prepare you to ask the right questions before bringing them onboard.

CIRAS also can provide cybersecurity technical coaching to assist companies with implementing basic cybersecurity hygiene, similar to the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Level 1. We’ll help you understand what practices are necessary to effectively secure your data and how close your company is to getting there.

In addition, our technical coaching services educate you on the details of each of the cybersecurity controls outlined in the NIST 800-171 and help companies interpret how to comply.

Data protection is certain to become a larger and larger portion of our business lives in the coming years. No company can afford to let “cybersecurity” become a dirty word. Smart companies will act now and learn what they need to learn to safeguard their future.

CIRAS can help you secure your business, mitigate your risks against cyberattacks, and position your company for growth.

For more information, contact Jodi Essex at jodir@iastate.edu or 515-509-0769

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About CIRAS

The Center for Industrial Research and Service was created in 1963 to improve the quality of life in Iowa by helping businesses and their communities prosper and grow. Our individually tailored strategy *Engage. Educate. Embed.* means we work with companies to fashion solutions specific to their individual needs.

Over the past five years, CIRAS and our partners have helped more than 4,100 businesses in every Iowa county, creating an economic impact of more than \$3 billion.