



# **The Manning Story and Lessons Learned**

**by Warren Puck, President  
Manning Betterment Foundation  
Iowa Community Foundation and  
Philanthropy Academy  
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# Manning at a Glance

- ❖ **Population 1,500**
- ❖ **Incorporated in 1881**
- ❖ **Located on Highway 141 in the SW Corner of Carroll County in West Central Iowa.**
- ❖ **Approximately 90 Minutes from Des Moines, Omaha, Sioux City, Fort Dodge and Ames.**



# Characteristics

- ❖ **Unconsolidated K-12 School District With 530 Students**
- ❖ **Community Owned Regional Healthcare Center**
- ❖ **Municipal Organizations:**  
**Electric, Natural Gas, Water, Sewer, Internet Communications, Telephone, TV/FM, Housing, and Public Library**

# Keys to Success

- ❖ **Community and Citizen Involvement**
- ❖ **Planning and Dreaming**
- ❖ **Volunteerism**
- ❖ **Assistance of Municipal Boards (42)**
- ❖ **Contributions Including In-Kind Assistance From Municipal Organizations**
- ❖ **Support of Local Banks**

# Manning Community Foundation

- ❖ **Founded in 1979**
- ❖ **Formed to Build Recreation Center With Indoor Pool, Basketball and Racquetball Courts.**
- ❖ **Purchased, Renovated, and Sold Vacant Storefronts on Main Street.**
- ❖ **Raised Funds to Purchase Ground for the Greatwestern Park (A 300 Acre County Park).**

# West Central Healthcare Foundation



- ❖ **Founded in 1989**
- ❖ **Generated Donations to Build Family Healthcare. Clinic - Served by 3 Physicians, 2 Physician Assistants, and Related Staff.**
- ❖ **Assisted In Raising Seed Money for a \$4.4 Million Renovation of the Manning Regional Healthcare Center.**

# Manning Betterment Foundation

- ❖ **Founded in 1993**
- ❖ **Converted the Manning Development For-Profit Corporation to a Not-for-Profit.**
- ❖ **Serves as Pass Through for Grants Awarded to Community Projects Such As Child Daycare.**
- ❖ **Helped Generate Funds to Allow Construction of 2 Four-plex Apartment Buildings.**

# Manning Heritage Foundation

- ❖ **Founded in 1989**
- ❖ **Purchased 1915 National Register Farmsite.**
- ❖ **Supports Heritage Celebrations Such as Kinderfest, Weihnachtfest, and Oktoberfest.**
- ❖ **Generated Funds to Bring Authentic German Hausbarn from Germany to Manning.**
- ❖ **Constructed Restaurant and Konference Centre Adjacent to the Hausbarn.**





# Lessons Learned

- ❖ **Ask People to Get Involved.**
- ❖ **There Are Individuals Who Are Willing To Contribute Large Donations To Projects That Interest Them.**
- ❖ **Provide Options – Not Everyone Will Like Every Project.**
- ❖ **Celebrate Your Successes.**