



Economic Development Division
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Business. Life. Balance.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Clearwater Development Corporation Donates Funds to Downtown Eau Claire Inc.

EAU CLAIRE, WI –The Clearwater Development Corporation has donated over \$30,000 to Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. (DECI) for the purpose of establishing a grant program for downtown businesses to use toward existing buildings, renovations, and other bricks and mortar type projects. The expectation is that the majority of the funds will be distributed within three years.

“We are very honored to receive the donation and are excited to create a grant program that will help our downtown businesses. We appreciate the confidence that Clearwater has shown in DECI by awarding these funds to us,” stated Ken Van Es, Treasurer of DECI. DECI is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the development of business, housing, and cultural resources and activities within downtown Eau Claire.

The Clearwater Development Corporation was formed in 1996 as a partnership between the City of Eau Claire and Xcel Energy. Its purpose was to improve economic and business conditions in the City Center of Eau Claire and it carried out this mission through a loan program. Upon dissolving the corporation, the board decided to make a donation with its remaining funds to continue advancing the growth and development of downtown Eau Claire.

“The Clearwater Development Corporation is proud to see the funds used to help local businesses restore and improve their buildings. This is directly aligned with our purpose and we look forward to hearing about the projects that come from this grant program,” stated Mike DeRosa, Clearwater Development Corporation Chair.

DeRosa also thanked Xcel Energy and the City of Eau Claire for creating a loan program that funded redevelopment projects such as the office building at 7 S. Dewey Street that currently houses Open Silicon and SDS Architects, the state office building at 610 Gibson Street, the Job Center building at 21 Madison, the purchase of the building at 205 N. Dewey Street now occupied by Volume One, and the purchase and remodel of 309 S. Barstow Street for Entropy MultiMedia.

About the Economic Development Division:

As a division of the City of Eau Claire, our mission is to grow local businesses, facilitate expansions, and recruit outside businesses to locate in Eau Claire in order to increase quality of living, add well-paying jobs and grow tax base.

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