



2024 MEDA Spring Conference Agenda

April 23

- 12:00-2:00 pm Pre-Conference Class: Successful Grant Writing 101
Becky Rosenleaf (Bey), Government Relations Manager, KLJ @ Roosevelt Center (separate \$25 registration required)
- 2:00-4:00 pm MEDA Board Meeting – Pollard Hotel
- 5:00-7:00 pm Networking Reception, Tours, and Cornhole Tournament (Weather pending) – Red Lodge Ales/Sam’s Taproom

April 24

- 7:30 am Registration Opens & Networking Breakfast
- 8:15 am Conference Welcome
- 8:30 am Keynote Update on EDA and Eco Devo Trends – Angela Martinez, Regional Director for EDA's Denver Regional Office
- 9:30 am Commerce & Housing Program (819) Update - Director, Paul Green
- 10:30 am Coffee Break Networking Exercise/Break
- 10:45 am Access to Capital Study Findings & Panel – Panel Led by: Jennifer Isern, Catalyze Global Impact
- 12:15 pm Lunch & The State of MEDA/Membership Voting – Tori Matejovsky, MEDA Board Chair & Allison Corbyn, MEDA Executive Director
- 1:30 pm Legislative Priorities of our Partners Panel (MACO, League of Cities & Towns, Montana Chamber)
- 2:45 pm Tech Hub Update – Mary Craigle, Bureau Chief, Research & Information Services, MDOC
- 3:15 pm Cookie Networking Exercise/Break
- 3:30 pm Montana Community Foundation Overview & Presentation on Transfer of Wealth Study- Jessica Stewart-Kuntz, Vice President of Philanthropy, Montana Community Foundation
- 4:15 pm Red Lodge Success Story Tours
- 5:30 – Networking Reception at the Pollard
- 6:30 pm



2024 MEDA Spring Conference Agenda

April 25

7:15 am Registration & Breakfast Available

Early Bird Session: Leveraging AI to Drive Efficiencies – Hands on introduction to AI platforms and how to make AI work for you and businesses in your community. – Abria Boze, Project Manager, Montana Economic Developer Association

8:15 am Welcome to Day Two

8:20 am MEDA Policy Priorities Exercise – Eric Seidensticker, MEDA Policy Committee Chair

9:10 am Department of Natural Resources Updates – Autumn Coleman, Bureau Chief, Conservation & Resource Development Division

9:30 am Break Out Sessions

- Marketing Your EDO's Impact & Success Stories – Graphic Finesse
- Creative Capital – Putting Money to work in your community
- Resiliency After Disaster: Red Lodge's Journey After the Flood - Panel led by: Brent Moore, Western Regional Vice President, Interstate Engineering

11:30 am Lunch & Facilitated Connection with Peers – Karen Baumgart-Miller & Michelle Williams, Kaleidoscope Group

1:40 pm State Government Department Updates

- Christy Clark – Director, Montana Department of Agriculture
- Mark Blasdel – Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development
- Adam Carpenter – Chief Data Officer, Montana Department of Administration
- Jamey Peterson - Director of Tourism, Destination MT Community & Economic Vitality, MDOC
- Galen Steffens, Division Administrator, Community MT, MDOC

3:30 pm Conference Close & Door Prizes