



Center  
on Rural  
Innovation



# "FROM IDEAS TO IMPACT"

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## CORI CONFERENCE 2024

RED WING, MINN. | MAY 8-9, 2024

**Sponsorship opportunities**

**Enrollment deadline: April 12, 2024**



# About the Center on Rural Innovation

The [Center on Rural Innovation](#) (CORI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit capacity-building organization that partners with rural communities in their own efforts to develop tech economies.

Established in 2017, CORI is at the heart of a dynamic social enterprise focused on closing the rural economic opportunity gap. To maximize all possible resources to address this critical problem, CORI collaborates with a taxable nonprofit, Rural Innovation Strategies, Inc. (RISI), and a seed fund, the CORI Innovation Fund, focused on early-stage technology companies located in rural areas.

## About the Rural Innovation Network

CORI's [Rural Innovation Network](#) is a nationwide community of change agents and local leaders working to advance the economic futures of their rural communities. The 38 member communities receive ongoing support, guidance, and mentorship from CORI's team. Members also have access to CORI's economic expertise, data and mapping tools, accelerated programming, working groups, and national resources and partnerships to draw from as they advance their tech economy ecosystem strategies.



### Who's in the Network?

- Rural communities that have shown ongoing dedication and commitment to advancing their economic futures by establishing tech economies and supporting 21st-century innovation
- 38 communities from 24 states
- A population of nearly 3 million people
- Member representatives include economic development professionals, chamber of commerce members, incubator/accelerator managers, and leaders of co-working spaces

**Network communities:** Aberdeen, SD | Ada, OK | The Berkshires | Cape Girardeau, MO | Cedar City, UT | Central Wisconsin  
Chambers County, AL | Cochise County, AZ | Durango, CO | Eastern Kentucky | Emporia, KS | Greenfield, MA | Independence, OR | Kirksville, MO  
Liberal, KS | Manitowoc, WI | Marquette, MI | Nacogdoches, TX | Norfolk, NE | Northeast Kingdom, VT | Paducah, KY | Paso Robles, CA  
Pine Bluff, AR | Platteville, WI | Portsmouth, OH | Pryor Creek, OK | Randolph, VT | Red Wing, MN | Rutland, VT | Shenandoah Valley, VA  
Springfield, VT | Taos, NM | The Dalles, OR | Traverse City, MI | Waterville, ME | Wilkes County, NC | Wilson, NC | Windham County, VT



# CORI CONFERENCE 2024

## Purpose of the event

[CORI Conference 2024](#) — “From ideas to impact: Empowering rural development through innovation” — is hosted by the Center on Rural Innovation as a way to strengthen connection and collaboration between the rural leaders within our Network and the field at large.

This inaugural event builds on the past success of CORI’s largest annual event, the members-only Rural Innovation Network Summit, and is an opportunity to bring together over 100 changemakers, thought leaders, and others interested in leveraging technology to drive positive change in rural communities. Our agenda will be carefully curated and explore topics such as supporting scalable tech entrepreneurship, bridging the gap between tech careers and local skilling initiatives, and examining the latest data and research pertinent to rural development.

The Conference also includes plenty of time for informal collaboration and networking that furthers CORI’s mission. Attendees can share best practices and learn from each other, and forge relationships and connections that lead to positive change in rural America.



## About Red Wing, Minnesota

This year’s Rural Innovation Network Summit and CORI Conference will be held in Red Wing, Minnesota, a city of nearly 17,000 that is located about an hour southeast from the Twin Cities.

A Network member since 2019, [Red Wing Ignite](#) has spearheaded the region’s tech-based economic development work, connecting key sectors of the community to share ideas, resources, and expertise that spur innovation. Since opening in 2013, Red Wing Ignite has served more than 340 entrepreneurs and secured more than \$5 million in EDA grant funding to support its efforts. Its annual pitch competition, the E1 Ignite Cup, has showcased exciting startups for nearly a decade and served as a springboard to state- and national-level competitions.

CORI is excited that attendees of this year’s Summit and Conference will have a chance to explore and learn everything Red Wing has to offer as a model for supporting rural innovation.

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Organizations and businesses can sponsor this year's event. Please note that not every tier includes admittance to the conference. Enrollment deadline: April 12, 2024

	Coast-to-Coast sponsor \$25,000	Regional sponsor \$10,000	Interstate sponsor \$5,000	Place-based sponsor \$2,500	Travel sponsor \$1,000
Featured on the event landing page, in the event program booklet, on signage throughout the event space	 <i>Preferred logo placement, special thanks</i>	 <i>Prominent logo placement</i>	 <i>Logo placement</i>	 <i>Listed</i>	 <i>Listed</i>
Sponsorship announcement via social media	 <i>Exclusive post, logo placement, account tagging, caption input</i>	 <i>Shared post, logo placement, account tagging</i>	 <i>Shared post, logo placement</i>	 <i>Shared post, logo placement</i>	 <i>Shared post, logo placement</i>
Highlighted in an event recap post on CORI's website and in one pre-event and post-event email to registered attendees	 <i>Exclusive, co-branded post with account tagging and caption input</i>	 <i>Logo placement</i>	 <i>Logo placement</i>	 <i>Logo placement</i>	
Mentioned in CORI's monthly newsletter	 <i>Two newsletters, special thanks</i>	 <i>Two newsletters, listed</i>	 <i>One newsletter, listed</i>		
Tickets to the public component of the Summit	 <i>Four tickets</i>	 <i>Two tickets</i>			
Highlighted in event press release and verbal recognition during event programming	 <i>Special thanks</i>				

## Newsletter subscribers

Our monthly newsletter list exceeds more than 14,000 people

## Social media followers

We have more than 12,000 active followers across our social media channels



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## CORI's mission

*Advancing economic prosperity in rural America through the creation of inclusive tech economy ecosystems that support scalable entrepreneurship and tech job creation.*

## Become a sponsor

To purchase a sponsorship package, please email Emily Szamocki, CORI's Senior Development Associate, at [emily.szamocki@ruralinnovation.us](mailto:emily.szamocki@ruralinnovation.us).

Please note: Not all sponsorship packages include admittance into the conference. Thank you!

Sponsorship enrollment deadline:  
**April 12, 2024**

