

**Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation's
CEO Network Meeting**

**Special Guest Speaker:
Debi Durham, Director
Iowa Economic Dev. Authority**

**Tuesday, April 3, 2012
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Algona KC Hall**

Cost: \$8.00 per person. Includes lunch

***To RSVP, call K/PACEDC Office at 515-295-7979 or email:
kcedc@kossuthia.com***



Deborah V. Durham

BIO

Governor Terry E. Branstad appointed Debi Durham director of the Iowa Department of Economic Development in January 2011. As one of her first orders of business, Debi worked with the Governor and legislators to restructure the department to create a public-private partnership to update and improve Iowa's delivery of economic development services.

That led to the creation of the Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress – the umbrella organization for the new structure. Debi now serves as the director of the Iowa Economic Development Authority, the public arm that replaces IDED and oversees the traditional economic development programs.

Prior to leading Iowa's economic development initiatives, she served as president of the Siouxland Chamber of Commerce since July 1995. She also served as president of The Siouxland Initiative (TSI), the economic development corporation serving the tri-state metropolitan area, and the Siouxland Chamber Foundation. In both 2007 and 2008, TSI was recognized as one of the "Top-Ten" economic development groups in the nation.

In June 2009, the Downtown Rotary Club in Sioux City recognized Durham as their Key Way award winner. The annual recipient is recognized as a local leader who has "contributed greatly to the health and prosperity of the area through business and community involvement." Durham was also recognized by the Iowa Association of Business and Industry as one of "Five Iowa Women You Should Know" in 2007. In 2003, she was named to the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame and was the Republican Lt. Gubernatorial candidate in 2002.

Debi holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Marketing and Management degree from Missouri Southern State University. Durham and her husband Joel have two children, Beau and Jordan.

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