

NEWS RELEASE

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Northwest Iowa Community College Recognizes David Miller as the 2017 Alumnus of the Year

Each year, one outstanding graduate of Northwest Iowa Community College is recognized for his or her accomplishments. The recipient of the 2017 Alumnus of the Year is David Miller of Rock Valley. David is a Marketing Management graduate from Northwest Iowa Community College and is currently employed as the Development Director for the City of Rock Valley. The Alumnus of the Year recognition was held in conjunction with the College's May Commencement exercises on May 12, 2017.

David is a native of Rock Valley, Iowa, and a 1997 graduate of Rock Valley Community High School. He began his studies at Northwest Iowa Community College in the Fall of 1997 and graduated in December of 1998 with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Marketing Management. While he went through his schooling, he was very involved with his family's business, "The Buckaroo," which was a well-known restaurant in Hudson, South Dakota. He eventually bought the Buckaroo, and successfully operated it until 2012. He sold the business and became the Chamber Director for the City of Rock Valley in 2012, where he put his prior experience and his NCC education to use to help entice shoppers to the Rock Valley business district. By 2014, David was promoted to Development Director for the City of Rock Valley, where his talents are used to help attract and grow new and existing businesses, as well as build and develop a skilled workforce to Rock Valley and the region.

In the role of Development Director, David has created many partnerships and utilized a lot of the various resources at the College. For example, during the floods in Summer 2014, David worked alongside NCC's Heavy Equipment and Powerline students to help in the relief and recovery efforts for Rock Valley. Furthermore, David and the NCC Heavy Equipment program have worked for the better part of the past decade on a few major dirt moving projects around Rock Valley, including Westview Industrial Park, Rock Ridge Industrial Park, Riversbend Campground and East Meadows Housing Development. David has also spearheaded a new scholarship from the Rock Valley Economic Development Corporation to be given annually to a Heavy Equipment student who assisted with the aforementioned development projects.

Additionally, David's role as Development Director involves helping businesses and industries around Rock Valley grow. David routinely advises businesses to utilize programs through NCC's Business and Industry department, which are tailored to improve the skilled labor force, enhance workplace safety habits, and administer new jobs training. David also currently serves on the NCC Manufacturing Sector Board.

David is also very involved in many community committees and organizations. He is the chairman of the Rock Valley Economic Development Corporation and the Northwest Iowa Development Board. He is also an active member of the Sioux County Board of Adjustment, the Rock Valley Kiwanis, the Friends of Rock Valley Foundation, the Project Youth Daycare Advisory Board, the Sioux County “Your Future at Work” program, and the Rock Valley Trees Program. He is also a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, is a Master Mason and helps with youth sporting and mentor programs. Previously, David served as a volunteer firefighter and emergency responder for more than 10 years in Hudson, SD.

Steve Simons, Northwest Iowa Community College Board of Trustee and Economic Development Director for Lyon County says, “David Miller is someone who likes to “fly under the radar” and do his work unnoticed. Not for the recognition, but for the good of the people it impacts. David’s career success and the way his actions help so many other people and businesses makes him an exemplary role model for our next generation of community leaders. He is a true example that a degree from NCC, mixed with self-motivation and real-world experience, can go on to have a huge impact on the community around you.”

David is married to NCC alumna, Lindsey Miller (’05 Associate Degree Nursing), and they have two children, ages 11 and 6.

Photo: L-R: Steve Simons, Northwest Iowa Community College Board of Trustee and Economic Development Director for Lyon County, David Miller, NCC 2017 Alumnus of the Year