BioForward

- WISCONSIN

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2024 -March 2025



2024

TURNING MOMENTUM INTO MEANINGFUL IMPACT



As I celebrate my **10th year** leading BioForward, I am more proud than ever of how far we have come. This year, we are moving beyond perception to measurable results—proving that biohealth in Wisconsin is not just a vision but a **powerful reality**. Over the past decade, we've transformed ambition into action, building an industry that drives innovation, economic growth, and real-world impact.

VISIORE THAN A
VISIONE THAN A
IT'S REALITY!

As we unite for a resilient future, we're not only creating solutions for today but building the foundation of a global powerhouse in biohealth. **Together, we are setting a new standard, one of tangible outcomes, innovation, and transformation.**

10 YEARS OF LAUGHS

Lisa Johnson's leadership over the past decade has been nothing short of transformative for Wisconsin's biohealth industry. Her unwavering commitment to collaboration, innovation, and advocacy has elevated the entire ecosystem—and it's been a privilege to partner with her through BioForward. At Gilson, we've seen firsthand how her vision has created new opportunities for growth and connection across the state and beyond. Congratulations to Lisa on 10 incredible years of impact.

Nicolas Paris CEO, Gilson, Board President, BioForward











When Lisa joined BioForward, the organization was struggling to find momentum and deliver meaningful support to Wisconsin's biohealth companies. Over the past decade, she laid out a clear vision for success and led the charge on major initiatives that have strengthened this vital industry in our state. I feel lucky to have worked alongside her for so long. While the work is never done, BioForward wouldn't be half of what it is today without her leadership. Congrats on 10 years, Lisa!

> Brian Moeller Former Director, Member Services & Operations

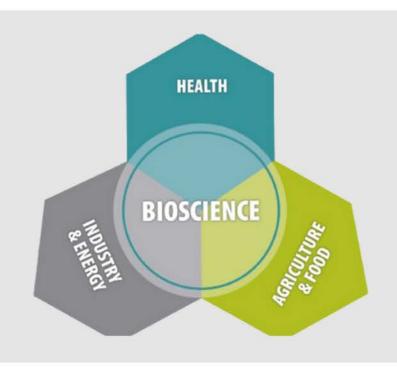


INDUSTRY EVOLUTION



Bloforward wisconsin's independent voice for bioscience

Up to 2015, BioForward focused on a much broader bioscience industry, encompassing health, industry and energy, as well as agriculture and food subsectors. Since 1988, BioForward provided industry advocacy, connected companies with resources, and held numerous small events laying the foundation for our last ten years.





170 1,600 36,000

\$27B

BioForward Members

Industry Establishments

Direct Jobs

Economic Impact

REALIZED POTENTIAL

Bio-Forward WISCONSIN

Over the last decade, BioForward transitioned to a rebranded biohealth industry to better represent & market Wisconsin. BioForward shifted its focus by hosting significant events, enhancing advocacy initiatives, expanding promotional activities, forming partnerships with industry and academia, empowering the community through sponsorships and donations, investing in the entrepreneurial ecosystem and the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub, and honoring achievements.

Biomedical Research & Testina



2025

265

BioForward Members

2,300

Industry Establishments

58,000

Direct Jobs

\$37.7B

Economic Impact



OUR YEAR



New Website

Launched a brand-new website to enhance visibility, usability and engagement.



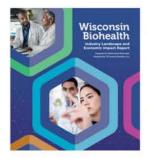
SEO OPTIMIZED UX IMPROVED



WI Biohealth Phase 2 **Funding**

EDA funding for projects turning vision into reality!

\$49M SECURED



Economic Impact Report

Significant industry impact—proof that biohealth is booming in Wisconsin!



Awards

Recognize biohealth industry with awards for achievements in business and science leadership. volunteerism, and community impact.

2 LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT

10 STUDENT 2 COMMUNITY



New Staff

Jamie Bauer, Grants Specialist Chris Unterberger, Lead Project Manager



Retiring Staff

Corrine Fetherston, Sr. Dir. of Operations

Thank you. Corrine, for your many contributions to BioForward—we are grateful for your impact!



Industry Investments

Invested funds back into biohealth through initiatives, WI Biohealth Tech Hub funding, & vital donations.

\$23K DONATIONS



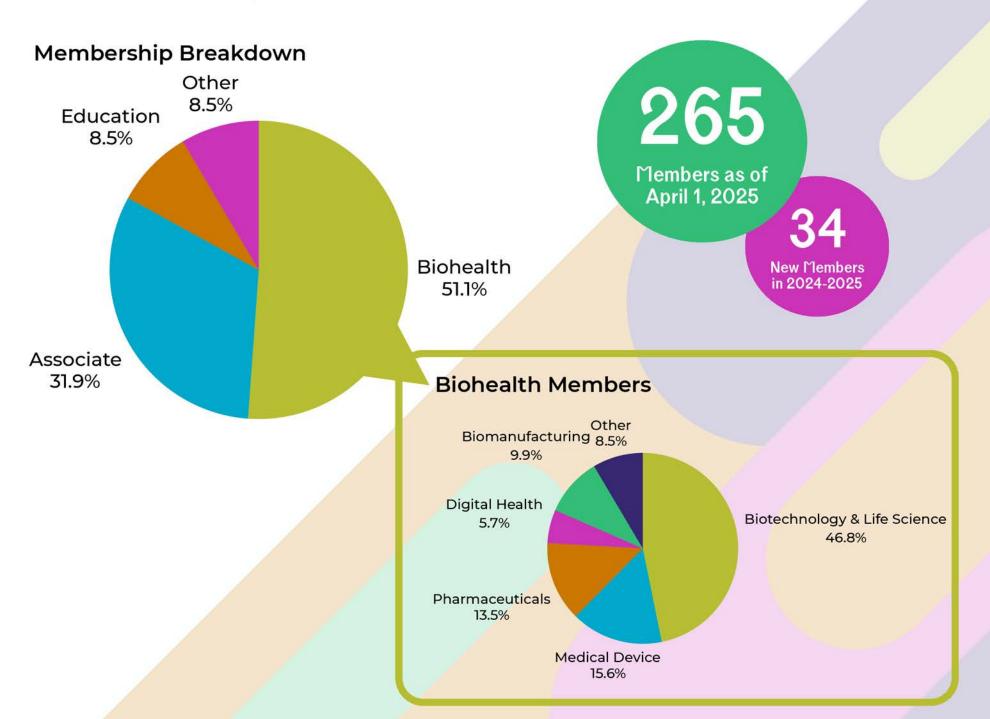
Events

Hosted events, engaging attendees in industry-shaping conversations.

>1700 ATTENDEES

WEBINARS

MEMBERSHIP AT-A-GLANCE



OUR TEAM



Corrine Fetherston
Sr. Director of
Operations





Michael Harrison Sr. Dir. of Strategic Initiatives Community Engagement, & MKE Office Dir.

Maci Hewitt Director of Member Engagement & Eau Claire Office





Rissa Guffey Sr. Director Marketing & Communications

Keeley Behr Intern Bryna Goeking



Jordan Lamb Legislative Counse The Welch Group

Chad Rhodes Accountant Figures First Consulting





Chris Unterberger Lead Project Manager





Jamie Bauer
Grants Specialist

Service Providers

State Advocac



Information Technology



6 bakertilly



Banking







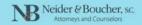


101K









Board





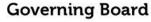




Yahara %









Anjon Audhya Sr. Associate Dean for Basic Research, Biotech, & Graduate Studies



Deena Ensenberger VP and General Manager, Global GMP Laboratories Clinical Research

BioForward



Jenny FongHead of Operations



Pam Gabris VP, Global Head Development Strategy & Study Management





Millipore SigMa





David Katzmann Senior Research Fellow



Justin Krause VP, Operations, Coordination & Strategy



Adam Kujath

EVP & Site Head



Edward Ladwig President, Food Chemistry Testing



EXACT SCIENCES



eurofins



Mara Lord
Chief Strategy &
Growth Officer



Adam Lynch

VP, Finance &
External Affairs



Thomas Lynch Director, Technical Sales & Scientific Support



Brad Pietz

Executive VP &
Chief Lab Officer







Vversiti

Eric Ruedinger
GVP & GM,
Pharmaceutical
Diagnostics



Angela Ryan VP, Clinical & IVD Product Management



Zachary Taylor Senior Director, Operations





WISCONSIN'S BIOHEALTH BOOM

The Wisconsin biohealth industry is more than just numbers—it's a thriving ecosystem fueling discovery, jobs, and economic prosperity. Our biennial **Wisconsin Biohealth Industry Landscape and Economic Impact Report** showcases the transformative effect of this sector on our state's economy.



YOU play a VITAL role in a thriving industry!

THE NUMBERS PROVE IT

141,278

Employees

\$11.7B

Wages & Benefits

\$1.4B

State & Local Taxes \$37.7B

Economic Activity

COMPANIES ARE EXPANDING

























See 2024 Economic Impact Report for a complete list of Wisconsin Expansions & Investments.

WISCONSIN VS. NATIONAL GROWTH



Industry Growth Advantage – Wisconsin's biohealth sector is expanding at a faster rate than the U.S. average.



Funding Leadership – NIH funding in Wisconsin exceeds the national average, and HHS SBIR/STTR awards have grown beyond national trends.



R&D Powerhouse – Academic research and development in Wisconsin is accelerating faster than in the U.S. overall.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



Venture Capital Decline – National VC funding has slowed, with Wisconsin seeing a sharper decline.

Opportunity to strengthen investment pipelines to attract more VC funding.



Workforce Development – The state lags behind national averages in the growth of health/life sciences degree graduates.

Opportunity to expand workforce training initiatives to build the next generation of biohealth professionals.

AMPLIFY

the message







BioForward has made tools to share your industry pride and advocate for biohealth. Join us in advancing WI's biohealth success!



WISCONSIN BIOHEALTH



As the **lead organization** of the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub, BioForward plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of biohealth innovation. Our leadership ensures strategic alignment, industry representation, and the successful deployment of federal and state investments into transformational projects.

Strategic Oversight: Guiding the hub's mission, ensuring alignment with industry needs.

Advocacy & PR: Leading government relations and public awareness efforts.



Industry Collaboration: Bringing together 40+ members, research institutions, and economic development partners.

Resource Integration: Helping constituents access hub benefits and funding.



BioForward played a key role in the EDA Tech Hub designation & funding during both the application phase and after successful advocacy efforts won state funding of \$7.5M.

TECH HUB

Supporting the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub has been one of the most ambitious and rewarding efforts in our organization's history. While the work has been a true team effort across the state, BioForward has contributed time, resources, and strategic leadership to help move the vision forward.

>\$300K

IN DIRECT INVESTMENT

Including staffing, legal, marketing, travel, and more

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

>507 Media Stories >1.5B Media Impressions >200K LinkedIn Impressions Plus press releases, press conferences, Summit speakers, press interviews, regional visits, Annual Member Meeting panel, etc.

OPERATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Administering EDA strategy grant, employing Tech Hub governance project team, marketing & PR, management of state funds, policy advocacy

INVESTING IN INNOVATION



investing in the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub



enhancing our website for improved engagement



BioForward has made significant investments to bring more value to our members and advance Wisconsin's biohealth industry. We actively reinvest in initiatives that drive impact—expanding resources, fostering innovation, and strengthening our ecosystem.



access to key industry events



supporting members & industry with state legislative counsel & federal advocacy



Al-powered database showcasing member capabilities





amplifying our member & industry stories both locally and nationally



compiling reports to share vital industry data





increased visibility and connections

ADVOCATING FOR BIOHEALTH INDUSTRY

BioForward actively advocates for policies that support Wisconsin's biohealth industry. Through direct engagement with policymakers, strategic legislative efforts, and collaboration with industry leaders, we ensure that the needs of biohealth companies are prioritized.

State Legislative Priorities

Universities of Wisconsin Budget Request: Investing \$855m for elevating our statewide universities through educational opportunities, talent development, and innovation investments.

√ support

Cole's Act (Includes All Co-Pays Count Legislation): Ensures insurance plans apply all types of prescription drug payments toward out-of-pocket costs.

√ support

2025-27 Budget Impacts: Tracking budget discussions that affect Wisconsin's biohealth industry.

Q monitor

Gain of Function Research Ban (AB 413/SB 401): Blocks critical research at Wisconsin universities on pandemic-related pathogens.

Oppose

Protect Our Farms (AB 957/SB 892): Prevents local bans on agricultural animal use, safeguarding Wisconsin farms.

√ support

Federal Legislative Priorities

American Innovation & R&D Competitiveness Act (HR 1990/S. 866): Restores immediate R&D expense deductions, critical for early-stage biotech companies.

√ support

NIH Funding Cuts: Protecting vital research funding that drives medical breakthroughs and innovation.

oppose

Ensuring Pathways to Innovative Cures (EPIC) Act (HR 1492): Fixes IRA provisions that discourage small molecule drug development.

√ support

SBIR & STTR Reauthorization: Extending funding for programs that fuel startup innovation and commercialization.

√ support

EDA Regional Tech Hubs Funding: Continued investment in Wisconsin's Biohealth Tech Hub through the CHIPS & Science Act.

√ support

Give Kids a Chance Act (S.932): Reauthorize the Rare Pediatric Disease (RPD) Prior Review Voucher (PRV) program.

√ support

SAVINGS PROGRAMS

Our savings programs connect members with trusted suppliers offering exclusive discounts on essential products and services.

BIOSAVINGS PROGRAM

BioForward has partnered with Fisher Scientific to leverage our combined purchasing power so all members can benefit.



AVERAGE DISCOUNT

55%

3%
ANNUAL CREDIT
ON YEAR-OVERYEAR GROWTH

>\$40M

SAVED BY PARTICIPATING MEMBERS IN 2024 0.5%

QUARTERLY
CREDITS

\$1.50
CREDIT PER LINE
FOR ITEMS
ORDERED ONLINE



FREE STANDARD SHIPPING

MEMBER MARKETPLACE

Some BioForward members offer savings on services to fellow members.







BIO BUSINESS SOLUTIONS



Through BioForward's membership in the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO), our members can take advantage of these BIO Business Solutions programs.





















INITIATIVES & IMPACT



BioForward's initiatives drive meaningful impact across the biohealth industry by fostering collaboration, education, innovation, and community support. Through strategic partnerships and targeted investments, we strengthen Wisconsin's biohealth ecosystem.



Women in Biohealth

Women in Biohealth provides networking, mentorship, and professional development opportunities to support women at all career stages. Through curated programming and partnerships with industry leaders, we empower women to drive innovation and leadership within Wisconsin's biohealth ecosystem.



Industry Collaboration & Education

BioForward collaborates with academic partners to enhance industry training, education, and engagement, fostering a skilled and knowledgeable workforce for the biohealth sector. These partnerships provide students and professionals with opportunities to engage with industry experts, gain hands-on experience, and explore career pathways in biohealth.



Launching a project-based learning curriculum based on industry partner challenges to high schools across Wisconsin.



Assisting in the development of an entrepreneurship workshop for researchers.



Supporting the development of new training programs.



Participating in the Industry Advisory Committee and evaluating Senior Projects in Biomolecular & Biochemical Engineering.



Presented on careers in biohealth at the First Annual Wisconsin Science Education and Research (WiSER) Conference.



CUVENTURES

Assisting and promoting the CTSI AMPD(NR) module Startup Bootcamps and Healthcare Innovation Pitch Event.



Presented on careers in biohealth and judged high school student presentations from Wisconsin and Michigan at the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.



Supporting the development of a biotechnology technician associate program.



Developing the Employer Provided Innovation Challenges program to connect rural and underserved Wisconsin high school students with biohealth companies for virtual project-based learning.



Recognizing student innovation through the Biohealth Communication Competition at the Wisconsin Biohealth Summit.



INITIATIVES & IMPACT

BioForward invests in partnerships that strengthen Wisconsin's biohealth industry: supporting STEM education, community health, and emerging companies.

Vital Donations to Support STEM & Community Health

























Strategic Tools and Partnerships to Power Industry Growth



BioForward's ecosystem initiatives address the infrastructure behind industry progress—ensuring our sector is safe, data-informed, inclusive, and connected. From supplier diversity efforts to environmental health, industry intelligence, and startup analysis, we are investing in the long-term resilience and success of Wisconsin's biohealth community.

Environmental Health & Safety Working Group

This quarterly meeting, led by industry leaders from Illumina and Promega, fosters collaboration and alignment in EHS strategies, with expanded in-person events planned for 2025.





Economic Impact Report

Released in partnership with TEConomy, the 2024 report provides critical insights into Wisconsin's biohealth ecosystem, supporting talent acquisition, investor education, and advocacy efforts. This edition features a new section on the WI Biohealth Tech Hub.

Capability Cloud

Launching in 2025, this Alpowered platform will serve as a dynamic, searchable database promoting the capabilities of BioForward's member companies.



Wisconsin Biohealth Startup Ecosystem Analysis

BioForward has partnered with TEConomy to analyze investment trends and startup activity, informing future strategies for BioForward and the Biohealth Tech Hub.

Supplier Diversity

Collaborating with the WI-Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Center to promote industry opportunities for minorityowned enterprises and encourage partnerships.



Ecosystem Support

Consulting with students, entrepreneurs, and community members to foster a thriving, cooperative, and innovative biohealth workforce.

Supporting Partners

Providing guidance to organizations such as MMAC/M7 and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to advance and promote the Wisconsin biohealth industry.





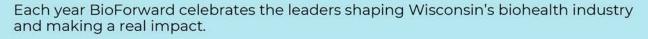












WISCONSIN BIOHEALTH AWARDS

At the Wisconsin Biohealth Summit, we honor outstanding scientific and business leaders with the Wisconsin Biohealth Awards, recognizing their contributions to advancing health.





COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

The Community Service Awards were developed to celebrate exceptional members who make a difference in our community. Award recipients were announced at the 2024 Annual Member Meeting.



COMMUNICATIONS COMPETITION

The Biohealth Communication Competition Awards were established to give young scientists and engineers an opportunity to present their research being conducted at Wisconsin universities, colleges, and tech schools.



Undergraduate
Ist Place
Matthew Dubin



MilliporeSigma
MilliporeSigma
SigMa



Graduate 1st Place

Claire Radtke





MEDALLION MEMBERS

Thank you to our Medallion Members for your support of BioForward and commitment to uniting and growing Wisconsin's biohealth industry.

PLATINUM



GOLD





















SILVER





































BRONZE























MEMBERS

5 Lakes Institute Abingdon Health USA Inc Accurav **ACROBiosystems** Actalent Admiral Chemicals AdvaMed AdvantiGen Biosciences Affiliated Engineers Agulos BioTech LLC AHP Health Innovation AIO Solutions Aldevron Alithias, Inc. Alliant Energy Amaen Inc. ASOE

Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

ATL Corp Automated Logic Axio BioPharma Baker Tilly

BellBrook Labs LLC Benchling **BioHR** Consulting

BioPharmaceutical Technology

Center Institute

BioSentinel Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Biotechnology Innovation

Organization

Boldt BrainXell Bridge to Cures Broadwing Advisors

BWBR CAI Ready Calimetrix Carex Scientific

Cascade Development Catalent Pharma Solutions Catalyst BioConsulting Cell Culture Company

CellScript

Cellular Logistics, Inc. Center for Technology Commercialization

CG Schmidt Construction City of Fitchburg

Columbus Chemical Industries, Inc. Concordia University Wisconsin Consulate General of Canada

CTaccess. Inc. CultureTrax LLC

Cytiva DeWitt, LLP Diverge Translational Science Laboratory

DNAStar, Inc. Domann-the Board Room, Inc.

Doret Consulting

Elephas

Eli Lilly and Company eMBR Genomics. Inc

Empirico Inc. **Emplify Health Energy Solutions ENTENTE Network**

Envision Greater Fond du Lac

Estrigenix EUA

Eurofins Food Chemistry Testing

Exact Sciences Faith Technologies

Findorff

First Business Bank Flad Architects FluGen, Inc. Foley & Lardner LLP Forward BIOLABS FUJIFILM Cellular Dynamics

Function Therapeutics, Inc.

GE HealthCare Genentech, Inc. General Capital

GeneTel Laboratories, LLC

Gentueri Inc. Gilson, Inc.

GoDX Golden Innovation Group

GRAIL

Gregor Diagnostics GSK

HealthLX **HGA Architects** Hooper Corporation Huston Design Hydrite Chemical ibidi USA, Inc.

IDBS

Ideal Builders Illumina

Imbed Biosciences, Inc. IMEG Engineering

Immuto Scientific Incvte

Innovenn, Inc. International Flavors &

Fragrances Inc. Intuitive Biosciences Invenra, Inc.

ioGenetics LLC

Isthmus Engineering & Manufacturing Co-op Isthmus Project/UW Health

JangoBio, LLC Jefferson County JP Cullen

Kendrick Laboratories Inc. Kenosha Innovation Neighborhood

Kivi Bio

Kraemer Brothers Kraus-Anderson

Labcorp Lean Design Werks LEO Cancer Center

LGC - Biosearch Technologies

Logistics Recycling Inc Madison College

Madison Development Corporation Madison Gas & Electric Company

Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals

Marquette University Medical College of Wisconsin

Medix Merck

MERI, A Division of Logistics Recyclina Inc.

Microbial Discovery Group

MilliporeSigma

Milwaukee School of Engineering Milwaukee Tech Hub Coalition Miron Construction Co., Inc.

Morgridge Institute for Research

Mortenson Construction

MyBio Ltd

Neider & Boucher, S.C. Nelambos LLC

Neurocrine Biosciences

New North, Inc.

NEXT Electric LLC

Nexus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Nimble Therapeutics

North American Mechanical Inc. NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes

Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Novii CPA Novonesis

Object Pharma, Inc. Octopi Brewing

Otsuka America Pharmaceutical.

Inc

PCI Pharma Services Pepper Construction Group

Pfizer, Inc. **PhRMA**

Plumb Pharmacueticals, Inc.

Polymershapes Potter Lawson, Inc. PPD-Thermo Fisher

Premier Medical Staffing Services Preservation Solutions Inc.

Prevention Genetics

Promega

PROMISS Diagnostics Protein Foundry **PSC Biotech**

Public Affairs Company **Ouebec Government**

Quincy Bioscience RAMLOW/STEIN Architecture +

Interiors RedFox Al

Refined Sciences Inc.

Regenerative Medical Solutions, Inc.

RELJA Innovations

Restaino Associates Realtors Retham Technologies

Riley Construction

Ring & DuChateau Consulting

Engineers Robocare Inc.

Rogers Behavioral Health RPRD Diagnostics LLC

Sara Investment Real Estate

Scarab Genomics LLC

Scientific Protein Laboratories LLC SciNote-Electronic Lab Notebook

SHINE Technologies Spaulding Clinical Spherion Staffing Splash Clinical Squire Biosciences Inc

Starion Bank Stem Pharm Inc. Sterling Engineering Sterling Pharma

Strang TCR Biotherapeutics

Tecan TeraMedica The QTI Group The Welch Group Thermo Fisher Scientific Third Wave Bioactives

Tosoh Biosciences Total Water Treatment Systems,

Inc. Town Bank U.S. Bank

United Way of Dane County Unitides Laboratories, Inc. Universities of Wisconsin University Research Park, Inc. Urban League of Greater Madison UW-Eau Claire

UW-Madison, Advanced Materials Industrial Consortium

UW-Madison, Biotechnology Center

UW-Madison, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

UW-Madison College of Engineering Office of Corporate Relations

UW-Madison, Master of Science in Biotechnology

UW-Madison, Office of Business Engagement

UW-Madison School of Pharmacy, Applied Drug Development

Program UW MS Applied Biotechnology

Program

UW-Milwaukee Innovation Accelerator

UW-Milwaukee Research

Foundation

UW School of Medicine and Public Health

UW-Stout UW-Whitewater Varizymes Vaxthera LLC

VC3 Inc Venture Investors, LLC

Versiti

Vertex Pharmaceuticals

Virent

Vogel Bros. Building Co.

Voximetry **Vvdiant**

Waisman Biomanufacturing

Waseen, Inc.

Wautoma Biotech LLC

Westphal & Co.

WiCell Research Institute Windfall Consulting

Wingspan Development Group

Winland Electronics

Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Wisconsin Rare Disease Alliance Wisconsin School of Business -Center for Professional and Executive Development

Wisconsin Startup Coalition Wisconsin Veteran's Chamber of

Commerce WiSolve WisperBio

WiSvs Women's International Pharmacy

Xiogenix XLock BioSciences Yahara Software

yorCMO



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