



**Jim McConoughey**  
President & CEO

Jim McConoughey is a recognized leader in Central Illinois and serves as President and CEO of The Heartland Partnership, President of the Economic Development Council for Central Illinois, President of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce, and manages other subsidiary business organizations of The Heartland Partnership family of companies.

Jim has a strong background in local community development activities and regional cooperation. As President of The Heartland Partnership, Jim started, reinvented, and managed numerous community-based boards designed to meet and solve regional needs for chamber activities, community and workforce development. His professional background includes traditional economic development and urban redevelopment.

Jim grew up on a third-generation family farm. After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University, he joined a real estate development company where he built, financed and syndicated hotels in the eastern United States. Jim earned his MBA from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois.

In his later role as Managing Director of the Elgin Community College, Jim oversaw 300 instructors responsible for providing people the skills they need to work, including small business development and entrepreneurial training. His passion for education still remains; he serves as a part-time professor at Bradley University where he teaches classes in entrepreneurial finance. Prior to joining the staff of The Heartland Partnership, Jim chaired the Kane County Economic Development Commission and was Vice President of the Elgin Chamber of Commerce.

Today he sits on the Boards of Peoria NEXT, Peoria Civic Federation, Wildlife Prairie State Park, the Governor's Broadband Task Force, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Advisory Council, and other charitable & public boards.

Jim is an active outdoorsman. He lives in Dunlap with his wife Gina of nearly 20 years, and their two children Elizabeth and Spencer.