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JLG ARCHITECTS: DEEPLY ROOTED IN WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA

While Minot may be familiar with JLG Architects' Katelyn Crider, Kelli Hammer, and Nate Ziegler, most don't know that this small team is part of a large pool of talent, with over 200 employee-owners spanning North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota.

JLG has had a team in Minot for 11 years but has worked on projects in the region for nearly 35 years. The Minot team is small but mighty – backed by a combination of virtual and physical connectivity to all western North Dakota and Midwestern projects. Crider, Hammer, and Ziegler have made their mark, transforming western North Dakota with master planning, design/build, and renovations for countless clients. More recent work can be seen at Minot State University, First Western Bank & Trust, Minot Park District facilities, First International Bank & Trust, and the latest renovation at the new Minot City Hall.

Homeward Bound

When JLG opened its doors in North Dakota three decades ago, the firm had just two founding owners, a dynamic duo that laid the foundation for the firm to eventually expand to over 200.

In 2014, JLG transitioned to 100% employee ownership, giving all employees equitable share in the company and the autonomy to spread out where they wanted to be and needed to be. For most of JLG's Minot team, this meant being able to live in the vicinity of their hometowns to pursue their passion for elevating the everyday Main Street.

JLG's Katelyn Crider, AIA, LEED GA, was raised in Kenmare, ND and attended NDSU to pursue her architecture degree. After graduation, she married her high school sweetheart, and the two established their home in rural Donnybrook, ND, where her husband operates and manages his farm. While Crider works on complex, award-winning projects of every scope, she's proven that big talent can live and successfully work in the smallest of communities (pop.74).

"I love that I get to live on the farm, work in Minot, and design projects throughout western North Dakota; I'm grateful to have the virtual and physical capabilities to be everywhere I need to be," said Crider. "It was always my plan to establish a home near my hometown – but still be able to impact the entire region with functional and aesthetic architecture, creating a better built environment for my neighbors, family, and friends close to home."



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Nate Ziegler, JLG's Construction Specialist, CSI, CDT, CCCA, LEED GA, relocated from Colorado 12 years ago to plant his roots in Minot. Although Ziegler didn't grow up in the area, his parents are from Devils Lake, so he was very familiar with the region. His father graduated from Minot State Teachers College in the 60s, prior to moving to Colorado. "I have family throughout North Dakota and have always enjoyed spending time here. Moving to Minot was a simple choice. However, I never anticipated working alongside so many dedicated and very talented individuals; all striving to heighten their profession and create incredible projects within their communities."

JLG's CEO, Michelle Mongeon Allen, also grew up in the area, in Towner, ND, just 45 miles from Minot. Just like Crider, Allen was raised in a rural, agriculture-centered community, and her dedication to growing western North Dakota has been a driving force for the firm. Allen has been steadfast in making sure the firm remains true to its roots and committed to their communities in every way, from emerging professional mentorship to volunteerism and pro bono projects for non-profit organizations.

Kelli Hammer, JLG's Construction Specification Writer, moved from Indiana to North Dakota in 2014. She has lived in oilfield housing in Tioga, spent a year working in Williston, and now proudly calls downtown Minot her home. "Some people think Minot is small, but I came from a town with a population of less than 500 and lived on a farm 30 miles away from the closest grocery store," explained Hammer.

Hammer is involved in several volunteer and community organizations, striving to make her community a better place for everyone. She has given her time to the local homeless shelter, raised money for local charities, and worked in the Scandi Kitchen at this year's Norsk Hostfest. "Being able to volunteer and be part of a community is a new experience for me," said Hammer. "Instead of taking care of livestock and daily chores, I'm taking care of my environment, where I live. I want where I live to be a place where everyone feels welcome and cared for. This feeling begins with designing around peoples' lives and who we are as a community in Minot. I'm so proud that JLG gives me the tools to make a local impact."



Local Leverage + National Expertise

Across the firm, JLG still serves clients with a small, boutique firm mentality and one-on-one attention that invites clients and stakeholders into the process, so everyone stays informed. The only difference today is that smaller teams like Minot are backed by the powerful resources and leadership of a larger firm with national expertise.

If you're looking for general or specialized expertise in the areas of K-12, Higher Education, Sports/Recreation, Healthcare, or Civic design, JLG has a well-educated team ready and waiting. Collectively, the team has earned over 73 AIA (American Institute of Architects) awards over the past three decades.

Immediate access to specialized and collective expertise is what motivates the Minot team to push for the bigger picture; firm efficiencies and manpower that enable the team to aim high and deliver a better built environment within budget.



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JLG believes design excellence isn't just a right reserved for large metropolitan cities – every community should have access to award-winning architecture.

Building Stronger Communities

Crider believes JLG's secret to success is in the details. "We work closely with clients to find creative solutions to overcome challenges that provide a functional and aesthetic built environment for the end user. Our Minot team takes on any size project; we can put the firm's local and collective resources to work as needed to transform Main Street, rural healthcare, education, community well-being, civic service, and the future of both large commercial and small businesses. We also work to reinforce the economic vitality of western North Dakota with CTE (career and technical education) program-based projects that address workforce shortages and regional talent retention. It's an amazing feeling to design the details that build stronger communities."

While JLG has concreted their role as regional and national leaders in architecture and sustainable design, the Minot team understands the power of bringing that expertise home – making an impact that improves lives, restores valued resources, and reshapes the landscape for a more resilient western North Dakota.

VALVOLINE INSTANT OIL CHANGE EXPANDS WITH 2ND LOCATION - NOW OPEN ON NORTH HILL IN MINOT

Valvoline Instant Oil Change, a trusted name in automotive maintenance, proudly announces the opening of its second Minot location on North Hill. This brand-new expansion brings added convenience to the community as well as another option for the quick stay-in-your-car oil change experience.

As a locally owned industry leader, Valvoline Instant Oil Change is well-known for its top-of-the-line products and its dedicated team. Their people are key to their long-term success who share a common goal: To always provide the best service to every customer.



"Our decision to open a second location on North Hill stems from the remarkable success of our current site next to Trusted Tire & Auto. We've been fortunate to have such overwhelming support and loyalty from our customers," said Jarid Lundeen, Owner. "Expanding to a second location allows us to better serve our community by offering the same exceptional service they've come to expect from us." The new facility, located across from North Marketplace Foods maintains the same standards of quality and efficiency. You'll never need an appointment, and customers can expect quick, top-notch service, including oil changes, fluid maintenance, filter replacements, and more.

At Valvoline Instant Oil Change, your car is the waiting room. Stay in your vehicle to see the job done right – right before your eyes. You also get a free 18-point safety check with every oil change, and it's all completed in about 15 minutes.