

2024: A LOOK BACK



LEAVENWORTH COUNTY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Looking back on 2024, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress and achievements we made together in advancing economic development in our region. This year had some real challenges and uncertainty, but we remained resilient and innovative.

Throughout the year, LCDC worked tirelessly to attract and retain businesses for Leavenworth County. Hill's Pet Nutrition has a full year of production under their belt. DSM-Firmenich has almost finished construction and expects to be in production by March. Project Transport came to fruition, and Croucher and Associates purchased two lots in the Urban Hess Business Center where they will invest \$2.5 million to build a 25,000 square foot storage and distribution facility for Wind Electrical Construction Supply (WECS). They will supply large cable reels to national companies.

Most of our manufacturing companies have invested heavily in more technologically advanced equipment over the past year, allowing them to increase efficiency and productivity and reduce waste. Zephyr Products, for example, is in the final phase of their expansion, which includes a new seven-stage wash line for powder coating. The new powder coating facility has doubled their footprint and elevated them to the leading manufacturing employer in Leavenworth County.

LCDC has continued its work marketing the county to attract new business by responding to Requests for Information (RFI's), attending marketing events regionally and nationally, and conducting county tours and email and social media campaigns. LCDC received 59 project leads and responded to 33. 16 are still active.

LCDC works with businesses long after they locate in Leavenworth County, through the Business Retention and Expansion program. LCDC helped existing businesses overcome barriers to growth by assisting with state programs and workforce development. LCDC conducted 40 business visits in 2024 and helped several companies with state certification programs, grants, and loans.

To help businesses attract workforce, LCDC hosted two career fairs and championed the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Symposium to establish a county-wide CTE program. The program is a collaborative effort between our county's high schools and KCKCC to establish multiple CTE pathways for students, which will eliminate redundancies, maximize funding and available space, and expose our students to a wide range of career paths. The success of this program will ensure a skilled talent pipeline for businesses in Leavenworth County for years to come.

LCDC could not be successful without the support of our public and private investors, volunteers, and economic development partners. Thank you to everyone who has helped LCDC work toward and achieve their mission of facilitating the creation and retention of jobs and capital investment in Leavenworth County.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Greenamyre".

Jeremy Greenamyre • President, LCDC



INCOMING LCDC PRESIDENT BRIAN HABJAN

Brian Habjan is vice president of Commerce Bank in Leavenworth. He started his tenure with LCDC in 2002 and joined the Executive Committee in 2021. He is actively involved with several service organizations in the community including Leavenworth County 4-H and the USP Leavenworth Prison Community Relationship Board, Vegetables and Volunteers, Inc., and the Basehor-Linwood Education Foundation.

ELEVATING LEAVENWORTH COUNTY'S PROFILE



LCDC took 6 marketing trips including 3 trips with **Team Kansas** to Phoenix, AZ, Indianapolis, IN, and Atlanta, GA, the **Industrial Asset Management Council Spring Forum** in Greenville, SC, **SEDC's Meet the Consultants** conference in Atlanta, GA, and **Area Development's Consultant Forum** in Miami, FL.



LCDC attended 20 marketing events in the Kansas City area including **SIOR Development Day** and events with key partners including **KCADC**, **CREW KC**, **MetroWire Media**, and **KC Tech Council**.



Staff attended **KEDA's annual Legislative Day** in Topeka and its **annual conference** in Manhattan, KS. Executive Director Lisa Haack was voted on to the **KEDA Board of Directors**.



LCDC hosted four county tours with partners including **Kansas Commerce's business recruitment team** and their **international-European team**, **KCADC**, and **Everyg**.

NEW APPROACHES TO MARKETING LEAVENWORTH COUNTY



PODCAST

The LCDC Team joined Dr. Kellen Adams and Jake Potter with the USD 453 Leavenworth School District on the 453 Fireside podcast. LCDC President Jeremy Greenamyre, Executive Director Lisa Haack, and Assistant Director Diana Dodd weighed in on the symbiotic relationship between school districts and economic development.



AD ASTRA FAM TOUR

The Kansas Department of Commerce and Team Kansas partnered to host the Ad Astra Fam Tour to showcase several sites in the Kansas City area to site consultants from around the country. The tour featured the available Leavenworth Business and Technology Park and the success of the Tonganoxie Business Park.

INVESTOR & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LCDC hosted four investor luncheons including the annual meeting and three more that each covered a topic including a Panasonic update, a transportation panel, and a housing update. The lunches took place in **Tonganoxie, Leavenworth, and Lansing.**

In partnership with the **Leavenworth County Port Authority (LCPA)**, LCDC hosted monthly and quarterly meetings for the **LCPA board of directors**, the industrial site visioning committee, and the future funding committee.

LCDC's annual golf tournament was held at **Fort Leavenworth's Trails West Golf Course**, hosted 24 teams, and raised \$9,000.

The LCDC team hosted **US Senator Dr. Roger Marshall** at the LCDC office.

LCDC attended the **Northeast Kansas Counties** annual meeting in Lyndon County.

LCDC moderated a panel of local manufacturers at the **city of Leavenworth's** annual Business Symposium.

LCDC hosted two career fairs, one in **Leavenworth** and one in **Lansing.**

LCDC participated in the **Leavenworth-Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Council's** Economic Development Forum. Assistant Director Diana Dodd graduated from the **Leavenworth-Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce's** Leadership Class.

LCDC spoke at the annual **Tonganoxie Business Association** annual meeting.

LCDC staff hold multiple board seats in Leavenworth County. Lisa is a board member for **KEDA**, the **Leavenworth Educational Foundation**, and the **Leavenworth-Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce (ex-officio)**. She also serves on the city of Leavenworth's **Airport Advisory Committee** and **Sister City Committee**. Diana is a board member for **Grow Leavenworth County** and the **Leavenworth Mainstreet Program (ex-officio)**. Mary is a board member for the **Leavenworth County United Way**, the **Leavenworth County Council on Aging**, and the **Women's Division of the Leavenworth-Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce**. She also serves on the city of Leavenworth's **Community Development Advisory board**.



2024 INVESTORS

PLATINUM



GOLD



2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

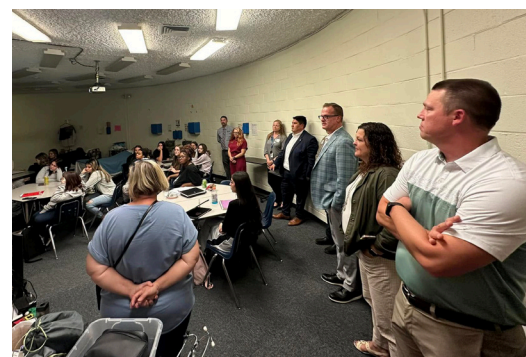
Jeremy Greenamyre • Greenamyre Rentals • President
Brian Habjan • Commerce Bank • Vice President
Harland Russell • George Butler Associates • Treasurer
Josh Hoppes • Mutual Savings Association • Past President
Lauren Kaaz • Lexeco • At-Large

BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Kellen Adams • USD 453, Leavenworth School District	Chad Schimke • Anytime Fitness
Darron Ammann • Bartlett & West	David Schroeder • Great Western Manufacturing
Dustin Baker • Alcove Development	Eric Valenstein • Country Club Bank
Jeff Chalabi • Central Bag Company	Dave Vodarick • BV Contracting Solutions
Steve Christensen • First State Bank & Trust	Blaine Weeks • Geiger Ready-Mix
Lynn Crawford • Armed Forces Insurance	Vicky Kaaz • Leavenworth County
John Handley • Fishman Commercial Real Estate	Tim Vandall • City Administrator, City of Lansing
Teana Hundley • Citizens Federal Savings Bank	Scott Peterson • City Manager, City of Leavenworth
Greg Mosier • Kansas City Kansas Community College	George Brajkovic • City Manager, City of Tonganoxie
Mike Reilly • Reilly Real Estate	Doug Schimke • Chair, Leavenworth County Port Authority

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Sarah St. Peter • Co-President, Basehor Chamber of Commerce
Sabra Hotujac • Co-President, Basehor Chamber of Commerce
Jen Anders • President, Leavenworth-Lansing Chamber of Commerce
Joanna Eibes • Tonganoxie Business Association
Haley Shaw • Executive Director, Leavenworth Main Street
Col. Duane Mosier • Garrison Commander, Ft. Leavenworth





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