

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**Harvey
County
Economic
Development**

Collaborative • Global • Growth

THANK YOU

FOR READING OUR 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

INSIDE, YOU WILL FIND:

- GREETINGS FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT
- OUR HCEDC LEADERSHIP & STAFF
- HARVEY COUNTY ADVANTAGES & KEY INDUSTRIES
- SERVICES HCEDC PROVIDES
- STATISTICS ON OUR BUSINESS GROWTH & RETENTION
- OUR GLOBAL MARKETING EFFORTS
- TRENDING NEEDS FOR FUTURE GROWTH
- CELEBRATING OUR TALENT PIPELINE

Our 2024 Annual Report was produced through a collaborative effort including HCEDC staff, board president, and local design talent sourced right here in Harvey County.

Visit harveycoedc.org or scan the code to view this document online.



Message from HCEDC President Rod Kreie

As I conclude my two-year term as the Chair of Harvey County Economic Development, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has helped us succeed, not only recently, but over the past several years. It has truly been an honor to witness the remarkable achievements and progress that happens when we all work together for the betterment of Harvey County, our region and the state of Kansas. I continue to be impressed by the hard work of the staff, the participation of our engaged board, the Harvey County municipal member entities, and the response from our business leaders and citizens when called to action.

Coming off of record success in 2023, HCEDC has continued to work with GAF as they have now broken ground on their property at the Kansas Logistics Park. It is exciting to see this project move forward and playing my part in this long game has been deeply gratifying. HCEDC has taken advantage of this momentum to rally in 2024 announcing 3 more project wins, an increase in the project pipeline, and several site visits for potential projects. We are also continuing our commitment to growth by investing in our future by securing land options for potential development sites and supporting speculative building development.

I have been involved in Economic Development for over 40 years – both as a project developer and as a volunteer soliciting companies looking to develop. I have worked with many different groups that do Economic Development for their communities, and without a doubt, I have never seen or experienced a group of volunteers and staff work as hard and effectively as HCEDC has in the last few years. Our collaboration with the Greater Wichita Partnership has also added tremendous value to what we do and we also feel blessed to work with them on their projects as they have worked with us on ours.

Economic Development is definitely a team sport. I encourage all of you, with your specific abilities, to continue your active leadership and collaborations as we work together to ensure a thriving future. We are at the forefront of many great things happening in Harvey County. With Industrial Development comes commercial development and housing. Let's work together to keep the train rolling and a big thank you for your part in our success and your commitment to our community.

Rod Kreie, CPA, Managing Member Great Plains Biosciences Group
HCEDC Board President 2022-2024



LEADERSHIP

Rod Kreie | President | City of Newton

Great Plains Biosciences

Ken Knepper | Vice-President

Newton Chamber of Commerce | Citizens State Bank

Ron Lang | Secretary & Treasurer

Newton Chamber of Commerce | Union State Bank (Retired)

Karl Matlack | At-Large | City of Burrton

Stinger Inc.

Tim Sweigart | At-Large | City of Hesston

Kansas Electric, Inc.

Carl Harris | At-Large | City of Newton

Carl Harris Co.

MEMBERS

Bob Myers

City of Newton

Mindy Budde

Harvey County / Mackey & Sons

Bryan Chapman

City of Sedgwick / Chapman Construction

Dennis Travis

City of Halstead / Power Specialties

Dr. Jon Gering

City of North Newton / Bethel College

Ethan Reimer

City of Halstead

Kyle Nordick

City of Sedgwick

Jeremy Ashby

City of Walton

Kim Ryan

The City of Burrton

Melvin Schadler

Harvey County / Peoples Bank

Randy Hague

Harvey County

Tony Wheeler

City of Walton

Joel Gaeddert

City of North Newton / Upland Exhibits

EX-OFFICIO

Anthony Swartzendruber

Harvey County

Gary Emry

City of Hesston

Kyle Fiedler

City of North Newton

Kim Wallace

Hesston Chamber of Commerce

Pam Stevens

Newton Chamber of Commerce

Stephanie Ashby

City of Walton

Daniela Rivas

City of Newton

HCEDC STAFF



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Executive Director

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Jennifer Mueller

Retention & Expansion Specialist

316-283-6033

Jennifer@HarveyCoEDC.org



GROWING REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Through intentional partnerships locally, regionally, and across the state, we are creating new opportunities for Harvey County. To cultivate collaboration, we engage in meaningful leadership activities including board of directors at the local and state level, as well as sustaining many ongoing memberships with important entities, clubs and partners, including the Greater Wichita Partnership, the Regional Area Economic Partnership (REAP), and are part of the executive committee for South Central Kansas' Economic Development District.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Choose Newton
Halstead Chamber of Commerce
Harvey County E-Commerce Leadership
Harvey County Parks Board

Kansas Economic Development Alliance
Strategic Advisory Team, Greater Wichita Partnership
South Central Kansas Economic Development District

MEMBERSHIPS

Business Retention and Expansion International
Halstead Chamber of Commerce
Hesston Chamber of Commerce
International Economic Development Council
Kiwanis Club

Lions Club
Newton Chamber of Commerce
Southern Economic Development Council
Team Kansas for the Kansas Department of Commerce
Wichita Chamber of Commerce

HARVEY COUNTY ADVANTAGES



Home to World Class
Manufacturing Talent

Built-In Community Support
for Manufacturers

Unparalleled Workforce
Training Programs

Five Shovel-Ready Industrial
Parks With 500+ Acres Available

Prime Global Location With
Exceptional Accessibility



KEY INDUSTRIES



Agribusiness &
Ag Manufacturing



Industrial Products
Manufacturing



Food & Beverage
Processing



Aviation &
Avionics



Transportation
& Logistics

HCEDC SERVICES

Economic Incentive Assistance

Global Marketing Support

Workforce and Talent Pipeline

Strategic Connections

Site Selection Assistance



BUSINESS GROWTH

Job growth is a leading indicator of the health of an economy. We strategically focus on the retention and expansion of our current employers, as well as the recruitment of new organizations and jobs. Through intentional, collaborative efforts with our local, regional, and State partners we are experiencing wins, resulting in significant capital investment and job growth in Harvey County over the last year.



\$21.2M

**TOTAL CAPITAL
INVESTMENT**



112

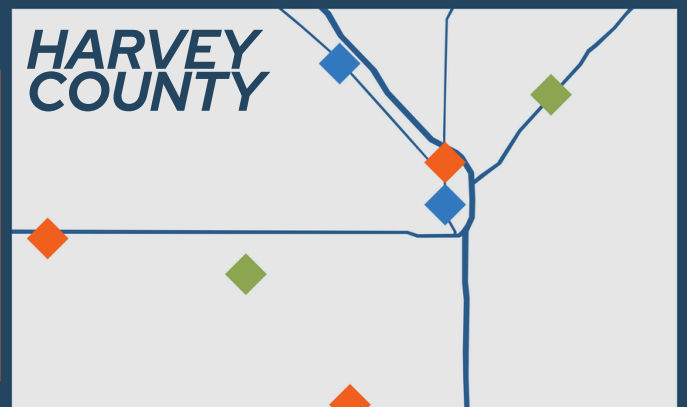
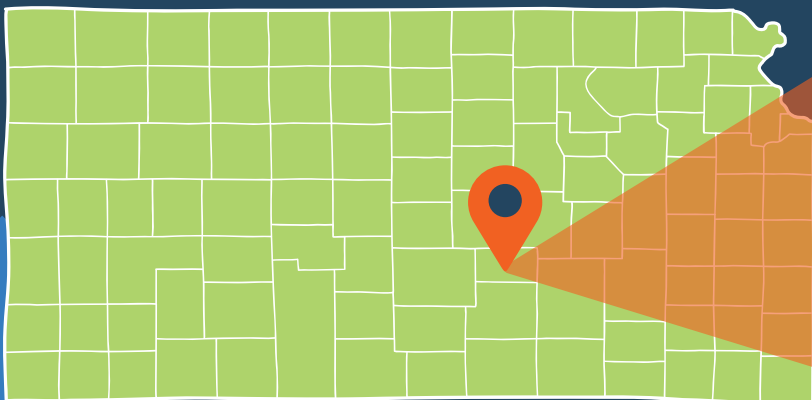
**NEW JOBS
CREATED**



The following companies expanded or located in Harvey County:



CUSTOM ENTERPRISES



BUSINESS RETENTION

Our formalized retention program is a core component of the EDC's scope of work. This effort creates the framework and intentional engagements to stay connected with our diverse and expansive manufacturing base.

Over the past 12 months HCEDC conducted:

72

**RETENTION
VISITS**

42

**LOCAL COMPANIES
ASSISTED**

HCEDC performed retention visits with the following companies:

AGCO Corporation
Ardent Mill
Avcon Industries, Inc.
BMG of Kansas
Budde Enterprises
Builders Concrete & Supply
Bunting Magnetics
CD Custom
Continental Agra Equipment
Country Fresh Foods
Doug Bradley Trucking
Ergon Asphalt
Stanley Black & Decker
Fly Manufacturing
Forest Product Supply Co
Future Foam Inc.
Full Vision, Inc.

Hardwood Mill & Supply
Hesston Machine & Welding
Human Plant Solutions
IMF Industrial Metal Fab
Knork
Kansas Electric
Legg Company, Inc.
Mackey & Sons
Manufacturing Solutions
Martin Machine and Welding
Midwest Transformers, Inc.
Mill Creek
Millennium Machine & Tool
Park Aerospace
Prestressed Concrete Inc.
Southwest & Associates, Inc.
Standridge Color Corp.

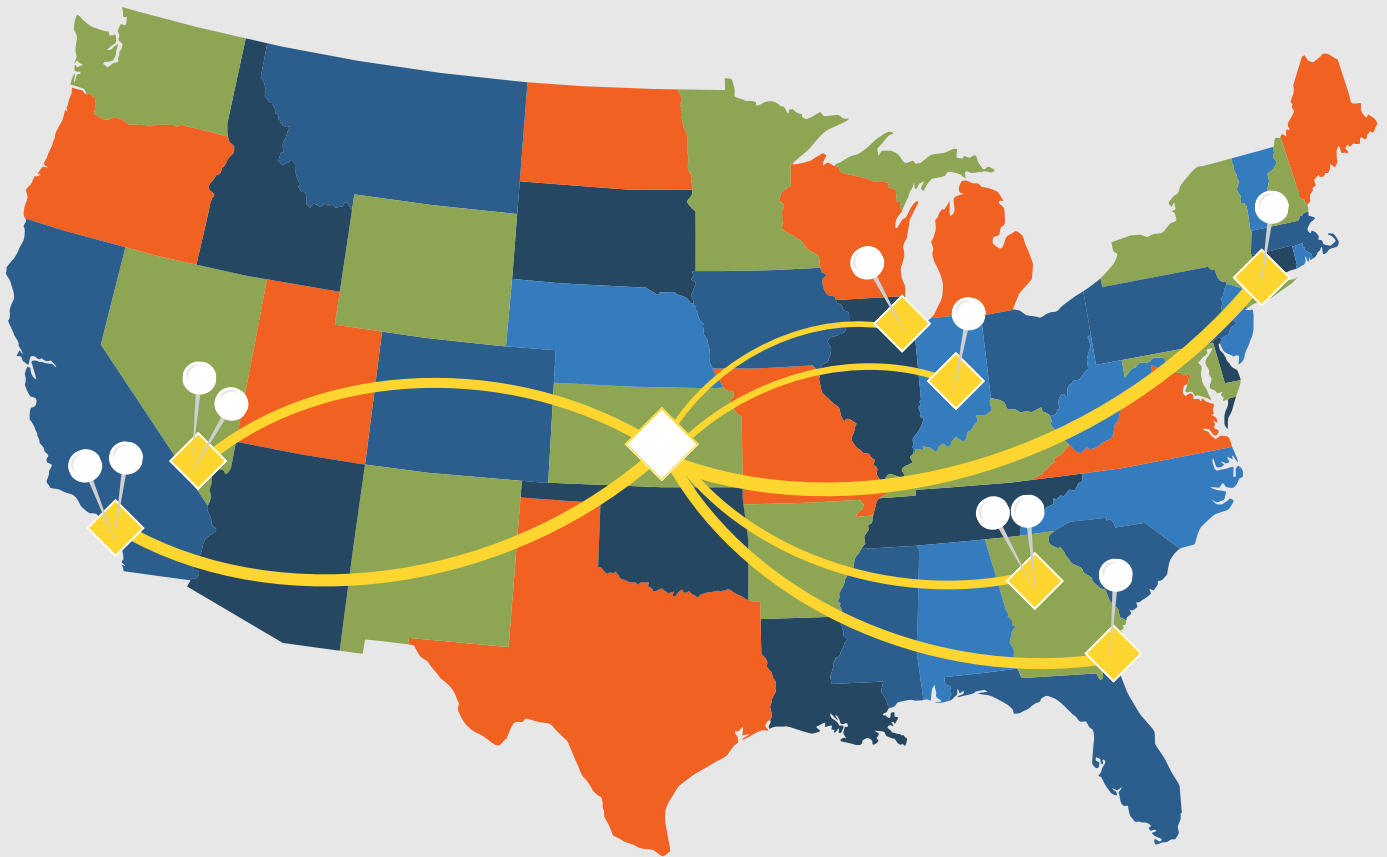
Stinger Inc.
Scorpius
Unruh Fab
Voestalpine Nortrak Inc.
Weatherly
Wilbur- Ellis



GLOBAL MARKETING

To stimulate awareness and interest in Harvey County and its business offerings, we implement an annual marketing strategy. Our robust list of activities include in-person meetings with site selectors and business owners, attending industry-specific conferences and tradeshows, targeted advertising, and beyond. During these engagements we are focused on highlighting our county's unique advantages in order to generate leads for economic growth.

Our continued collaboration with the State of Kansas and regional partners allows us to leverage our collective efforts, maximize brand awareness, and cultivate lead engagements.



Pack Expo (Packaging & Processing) | Sept. 2023

Las Vegas | *Tradeshow and site selector engagement*

NBAA | Oct. 2023

Las Vegas | *Tradeshow with State and Regional Partners*

CAMX | Oct. 2023

Atlanta | *Tradeshow and site selector engagement*

Team KS | Oct. 2023

Chicago | *Site Selector engagement*

Site Location Partnership | Dec. 2023

NYC | *Site Selector engagement*

Informa Markets Engineering West | Feb. 2024

Anaheim | *Site Selector engagement*

MODEX | March 2024

Atlanta | *Tradeshow and Site Selector engagement*

Team KS | May 2024

Anaheim | *Site Selector engagement*

Team KS | July 2024

Indianapolis | *Site Selector engagement*

SEDC | July 2024

Savannah | *Site Selector engagement*

FUTURE

Harvey County Economic Development meets with site selectors throughout the year for project lead generation, but also to understand the ever-changing needs of growing industry.

The current top site location factors ranked are:

- 1 Labor Costs
- 2 Availability of Labor
- 3 Environmental Regulations
- 4 Tax Exemptions
- 5 ICT/Broadband
- 6 Right-to-Work State
- 7 Quality of Life
- 8 Energy Costs
- 9 Corporate Tax Rate
- 10 Highway Accessibility

**Source: Area Development Corporate Survey*

SUPPORTING & CELEBRATING OUR TALENT

HCEDC continued to work closely with both workforce districts to assist our local industry find and cultivate the talent needed to be successful and create new opportunities for Harvey County.

HCEDC HELPED THROUGH:

4th Annual Brooks Trade Center Signing Day

With over 100 students celebrated.

Multiple Hiring Events

For displaced workers.

Grant & Training Opportunities

Available through the Kansas Department of Commerce, Workforce Four, and Workforce One.





Harvey County Economic Development
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