

**Harvey
County
Economic
Development**



**Annual
Report**



Leadership

TIM SWEIGART | President | City of Hesston

KEN KNEPPER | Past-President | Newton Chamber of Commerce

RON LANG | Secretary & Treasurer | Newton Chamber of Commerce

CARL??? HARRIS | At-Large | City of Newton

KARL MATLACK | At-Large | City of Burrton

JASON JONES | At-Large | City of Hesston

ROD KREIE | At-Large | City of Newton

Members

BOB MYERS | City of Newton

DAN HARTMAN | City of Sedgwick

DENNIS TRAVIS | City of Halstead

DR. JON GERING | City of North Newton

ETHAN REIMER | City of Halstead

JEREMY ASHBY | City of Walton

JOEL GAEDDERT | City of North Newton

Ex Officio

ANDREA BRAKER | Hesston Chamber of Commerce

BRADLEY HARRIS | City of North Newton

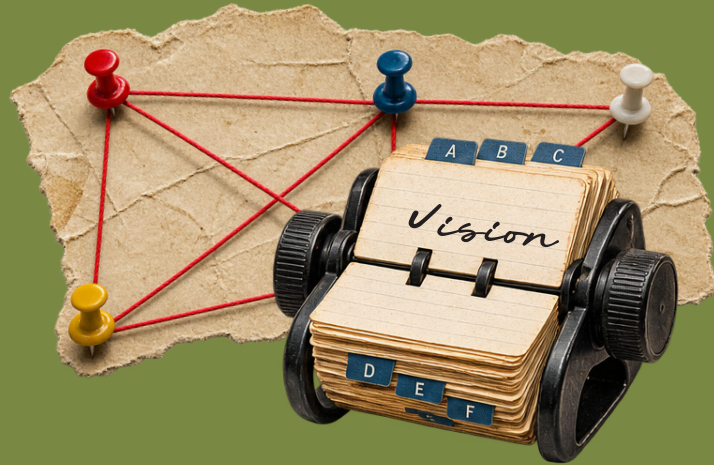
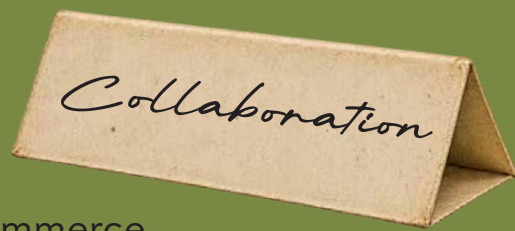
DANIELA RIVAS | City of Newton

JASON THRASHER | City of Hesston

KEVIN FRYMIRE | Harvey County

MARLA VILLANUEVA | City of Walton

PAM STEVENS | Newton Area Chamber of Commerce



KENNETH MULLINS | Harvey County

KIM RYAN | City of Burrton

KYLE NORDICK | City of Sedgwick

MELVIN SCHADLER | Harvey County

TERRY SCOTT | Harvey County

TONY WHEELER | City of Walton





HCEDEC President Tim Sweigart

Serving as President of the Harvey County Economic Development Council this past year has been an honor. The year has flown by as we remained focused on advancing projects, strengthening partnerships and creating opportunities that will benefit Harvey County for years to come.

Much of economic development happens behind the scenes—through conversations, planning, problem-solving and collaboration. While those efforts aren't always visible, their impact is. Every business we assist, partnership we strengthen and investment we help facilitate contributes to making Harvey County an even better place to live, work and raise a family. This report is an opportunity to celebrate those accomplishments and the collective effort behind them.

I continue to be incredibly proud of our small but mighty HCEDC staff and grateful for our Board of Directors, Executive Committee, municipal supporters and many partners. Economic development is never accomplished by one organization alone. It takes shared vision, trust and people willing to work together.



This year brought significant achievements in both recruitment and retention. We welcomed new investments from Shield AI, Barkman Honey and APAC Industries while celebrating continued growth from Midwest Transformers, Prestressed Concrete and Millennium Machine & Tool. Attracting new businesses is exciting, but seeing companies already here expand and reinvest is especially rewarding. Their confidence speaks volumes about our workforce, business climate and quality of life.

Challenges remain, including workforce availability and the need for additional industrial sites and buildings. But those challenges also push us to think strategically, collaborate and make investments today that position Harvey County for sustained success tomorrow.

Looking ahead, I'm optimistic. Projects in development are taking shape, and we believe the momentum will continue. We remain committed to pursuing new opportunities, supporting existing industries and preparing our communities for the next generation of growth. Responsible development creates quality jobs, strengthens our tax base and enhances quality of life throughout Harvey County.

Finally, thank you to the HCEDC Board of Directors for entrusting me with another year as Board President. It is an honor to serve alongside leaders who care deeply about Harvey County's future. I look forward to what we'll continue building together.

Tim Sweigart

PRESIDENT
CITY OF HESSTON



Business Growth

Every business that expands, every company that chooses Harvey County and every new job created adds to the momentum of our communities. By focusing on recruitment, retention and expansion, and working alongside partners across the region and state, we're turning opportunity into investment and investment into long-term growth.

\$41 Million

TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT

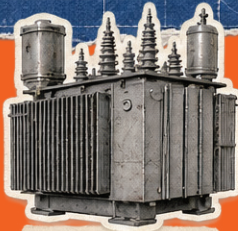
202

NEW JOBS CREATED

The Following Companies Expanded or Located in Harvey County



SHIELD AI



MIDWEST
TRANSFORMERS



APAC
INDUSTRIES



BARKMAN
HONEY



PRESTRESSED
CONCRETE



MIDWEST
TRANSFORMERS

APAC GROUNDBREAKING



NEWTON INDUSTRIAL PARK



SHIELD AI

Business Retention

Some of the best signs of growth come from businesses already here.

Supporting the businesses that already call Harvey County home is one of the most important investments we can make in our future. It starts with knowing our businesses, listening to what they need and being there when an opportunity or challenge arise.



69

RETENTION VISITS YTD

28

LOCAL
COMPANIES
ASSISTED YTD

Business Services Include:

- ECONOMIC INCENTIVE ASSISTANCE
- WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
- GLOBAL MARKETING SUPPORT
- STRATEGIC CONNECTION
- EXPORT TRAINING



Ready for What's Next

Growth creates the opportunity to think about what comes next. Harvey County enters 2027 with a strong foundation of industrial growth, infrastructure, logistics and collaboration. As business and site-selection needs evolve, we're using research, data and relationships to anticipate what comes next and not simply react to it.

The year ahead is an opportunity to invest thoughtfully in business and industry development, strengthen the advantages we already have and prepare Harvey County for new opportunities. Because the best way to sustain growth is to be ready for it.



The Site Selection Checklist Is Changing

SHIFTING SITE SELECTION FACTORS AS REPORTED BY
AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

1 Availability of skilled labor

2 Electric power availability

3 Site readiness and due diligence status

4 Responsive state and local government

5 Operating cost structure

6. Transmission and substation capacity;
7. Incentive competitiveness; 8. Depth of technical
talent pipeline; 9. Certainty of permitting;
10. Political stability

Key Industries



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS
MANUFACTURING



FOOD & BEVERAGE
PROCESSING



AGRIBUSINESS & AG
MANUFACTURING



TRANSPORTATION
& LOGISTICS



AVIATION & AVIONICS

Global Marketing & Events

AUG 25

Site Selector 1:1
Meetings (Virtual)

SEP 25

Fabtech | Chicago
KEDA | Dodge City
Pack Expo | Las Vegas

OCT 25

NBAA | Las Vegas
Team KS - IAMC | Indianapolis
Outlook Conference | Wichita

Economix Site
Selector Event
| Orlando

AEDL
| Kansas City

NOV 25

FEB 26

KEDA Legislative
Day | Topeka

JUN 26

Automate | Chicago

Farnborough
Airshow
| London

JUL 26

MAR 26

Site Selector 1:1
Meetings | Cleveland
Team KS Site Selector
| Atlanta



NBAA
LAS VEGAS

Talent Pipeline

Nearly 200 juniors and seniors from 12 schools across Harvey County were awarded certificates at the CTE Signing Day at Newton High School. BROOKS TRADE CENTER'S technical offerings and partnerships provide a powerful advantage for our community, bringing talent development and training our next generation of skilled professionals.



Growth Has a Lot of Partners

Behind every project, investment and new opportunity is a network of people working together. Our staff connects businesses, communities and partners across Harvey County, the region and the state—turning individual efforts into shared progress.

That spirit of partnership strengthens everything we do. Because when we work together, we create more opportunities for businesses, our communities and the people who call Harvey County home.

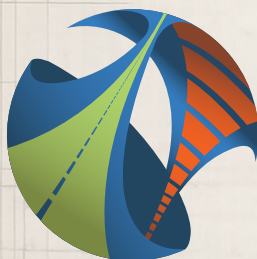
We do our best to facilitate growth and connections. But progress belongs to all of us. And there's always room at the table.



Beth Shelton
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
beth@harveycoedc.org



Jennifer Mueller
RETENTION &
EXPANSION SPECIALIST
jennifer@harveycoedc.org



**Harvey
County
Economic
Development**

 harveycoedc.org

500 N MAIN, SUITE 109
NEWTON, KANSAS 67114
(316) 283-6033

Harvey
County



DESIGN NOTE:

Piece by piece, these pages build a bigger picture. Growth happens the same way. Through relationships, ideas and opportunities layered together over time.

listen
connect
share
build
grow