



ATCHISON COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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Business Improvement Grant Program:

\$3,000 grants available in 2019!

Since 2013, ACDC's matching Business Improvement Grant has assisted with nearly 130 different projects throughout Atchison County. We designed this grant to help our county's existing businesses with projects that would improve the aesthetics, safety and/or function of their businesses.

Our BI Grant program has been around since 2013, and the \$1,000 Basic grant we've offered annually has helped dozens of businesses. However, we know that many of you have major projects in the works, so in 2019, we're offering our largest reimbursable grant yet.

ACDC has allotted \$9,000 to the 2019 BI grant program and plans to award one \$3,000 grant in each of these three geographic areas: Fairfax, Rock Port/Watson, and Tarkio/Westboro. Winning grant projects will total at least \$10,000. Each of the three 2019 BI Grants will reimburse up to \$3,000 of the total project cost.

**Atchison County
Development
Corporation's**

**2019
Business
Improvement
Grant Program**

Important details to note:

- Applications will only be accepted via mail and are due February 20, 2019.
- Projects must be approved prior to beginning work.
- ANY AC business current on taxes/licensure can apply, unless it received any ACDC grant in 2017 or 2018. (Businesses can apply for one ACDC grant per location every three years.)
- This is a competitive grant. Projects will be assigned points as follows:
 - BUY LOCAL
 - 50%-100% of goods and services for this project will be purchased locally. [2-3 points]
 - GROW BUSINESS
 - This project should result in new services or additional employees. [4 points]
 - This grant project should result in an overall increase in business sales or traffic. [2 points]
 - PRESERVE/BEAUTIFY BUILDING
 - This project will assist with maintaining or preserving building infrastructure. [3 points]
 - This project will improve the look of the storefront, facade or property. [2 points]

The BI Grant Committee will notify applicants of their selection by March 1, at which time grant award winners may begin the work on their project. Projects must be completed by October 31, 2019.

Please contact us (660-744-6562 or acdc@atchisoncounty.org) to receive a copy of the grant application and guidelines, or find it on our website (www.atchisoncounty.org).

The Mission of ACDC:

To initiate, stimulate and facilitate opportunity in Atchison County through economic and community development.

ACDC is funded by a 1/4-cent sales tax, which is voted on every 5 years.

On April 2, 2019, you will have the opportunity to vote to renew this tax. Snag our next newsletter (coming in March) to get an overview on the impact this funding has on the development of Atchison County!

Youth Community Beautification Grant: update!



At our Annual Meeting in September, the following three groups were awarded \$500 #MakeACBeautiful Grants:

- **Fairfax 6th Grade Guidance Class** (see below!),
- **Tarkio FBLA** (supporting Tarkio Renewal's planter project), and
- **Tarkio Parks & Recreation Junior Members** (rebuild upper structure of the crows nest at the ball field).

In October, the Fairfax 6th Grade Guidance Class used their grant funds (and a little help from the rest of their Elementary friends) to beautify Fairfax. They painted the picnic tables at the park, painted the outside of the concessions building at the baseball field, and painted the outside of the building at the track. The bridge in front of the playground was scraped by 4th grade students and painted by everyone. Kindergarten and first graders picked up trash and leaves and sticks from the playground.

We're STILL so proud of them, and we look forward to completion of all the #MakeACBeautiful grant projects before August 2019.



Get Involved in your community!

**BEFORE YOU
COMPLAIN,
HAVE YOU
VOLUNTEERED
YET?**

Did you know that things don't have to stay the way they are?

Did you know that things will stay exactly the way they are, if we keep doing exactly what we're doing?

Did you know that there are groups around Atchison County dedicated solely to the general betterment of their community?

Did you know that our civic groups are always looking for volunteers and ideas?

Did you know that YOU could join one of these efforts, or even start one of your own?

In Atchison County there are several community-wide 501(c)3 groups. Two of these groups are active and meet on a regular basis: **Fairfax Improvement Foundation** and **Tarkio Renewal**. **Restore Rock Port** is a formally structured group that is currently dormant, but can be easily reactivated at any time - it just needs volunteers to reignite it. Give us a call. We'll be glad to connect you with one of our many excellent AC groups!

**Celebrate what you want
to see more of.**

Tom Peters

← **Yes. What he said.**
And also, #ACisAwesome.

- ACDC Director Monica Bailey

ACDC Scholarship Applications: due FEBRUARY 28, 2019

ACDC's annual scholarship program was created to help outstanding AC graduates fund post-secondary education and training that can enable them to live, work and create a life here. ACDC offers a \$1,000 award to one student from each high school in each of the following categories, for a total of two scholarships per school:

- community college or technical training program
- 4-year undergraduate degree

Applications are available in each high school counselor's office and are due to ACDC by 3pm on February 28.

CAREER

LIFE

ACDC's Fall Youth Career Programs: recap!

Aside from growing and creating businesses in our county, the effort we focus most on is developing our emerging workforce. Our youth career programs are designed around two core beliefs:

- We believe that when students connect with local adults who have successfully created a life here and care about young people, those students see that a bright future is POSSIBLE here in Atchison County.
- We believe that when employers interact with students, they increase their chances of finding quality employees who are invested in this county.

Youth Professionalism Workshop - Juniors

November 19 marked our 5th annual Youth Professionalism Workshop. At this event, we provide AC Juniors with helpful advice for their professional lives: how to get/keep a job, personal presentation, interview skills, etc. We introduce them to a person working in each of the six career clusters utilized in their career planning, in addition to those active in cottage manufacturing and entrepreneurship. In addition to receiving a crash course on professionalism, students learn about over a dozen different ways to make a life here.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ Kent Fisher (Kent Fisher Insurance) | ▪ Julie Hurst (Hurst Greenery) |
| ▪ Elizabeth Brown (Dusty Trail) | ▪ Amber Graham (Ella&Grey) |
| ▪ Jason Watkins & Angie Vernon (Midwest Data) | ▪ Representative Allen Andrews |
| ▪ Corey Martin and Sage Jones (Enel/Rock Creek Wind Farm) | ▪ Ann Schlueter (CH-F) |
| ▪ WC and Mike Farmer (Tarkio Avalanche) | ▪ Sheriff Dennis Martin (ACSO) |
| ▪ Keli Morris (NWMEF) | ▪ Bill Slaughter (Fairview Farm) |
| | ▪ Linda Dewhirst (Cooper Nuclear) |



Special thanks to our outstanding high school counselors and ACDC board member Lydia Hurst; all employers and speakers who gave their time to the students; CH-F for lunch; and locations that hosted the group, including CH-F, Midwest Data, Bank Midwest, and Tarkio Avalanche.



Careers on Wheels - Freshmen

Careers on Wheels was held on September 28. This "speed interview" event gives AC Freshmen the opportunity to learn about many AC careers that are performed outside of a building or office ("on wheels"). THANK YOU to the following businesses and organizations that participated in this fun, interactive morning:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ▪ Mo-Valley Ag | ▪ Atchison-Holt Ambulance District | ▪ Double M Towing | ▪ Atchison Holt Electric Coop. |
| ▪ CH-F Home Health | ▪ MO Dept. of Conservation | ▪ Rock Port Police Dept. | ▪ Atchison County Sheriff's Office |
| ▪ Midwest Data | | ▪ Groovy's Grub | |

ACDC Board & Staff

Directors:

- * Lori Seymour, Pres.
- * Craig Corken, V. Pres.
- * Bob Alldredge, Treas.
- * Eryn Stepp, Sec.
- * W.C. Farmer
- * Roger A. Martin
- * Jeff Meyer
- * Eryn Stepp
- * Scott Melvin

Staff:

- * Monica M. Bailey, Executive Director
- * Carol Clark, Administrative Assistant

Want to learn more about what we do or suggest how we can do better? Talk to us!

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Rock Port, MO 64482
660) 744-6562
acdc@atchisoncounty.org

Website:
www.atchisoncounty.org

Facebook/Instagram
(@atchisoncountydevelopment)

Great Northwest Day at the Capitol: 2019

Great Northwest Day, an annual, cooperative effort, was established by Leadership Northwest Missouri in 2003. Organized by the 18 counties that comprise the "Great Northwest," this event engages area constituents in a unique regional effort that promotes our region in Jefferson City and pursues legislation beneficial to our citizens.

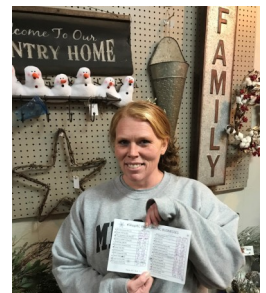


This event includes introductions to the House & Senate and a regional lunch, followed by an evening buffet with State legislators, department heads and elected officials. This year's evening event will feature a Luau, while showcasing community and county booths, emphasizing regional priorities and promoting local attributes.

Each year ACDC staff and Atchison County citizens travel to the Capitol to join other regional leaders in educating legislators on what is happening in our corner of the state. Great Northwest Day 2019 is scheduled for **February 5-6, 2019**. If you want to learn more about this event, please contact ACDC (660-744-6562 or acdc@atchisoncounty.org).

#ShopAC: the gift that keeps on giving!

On November 15, ACDC coordinated the annual countywide #ShopAC event. Over 150 passports were returned that evening, which were entered into a drawing. Congratulations to these shoppers for winning gift certificates to AC stores of their choice: Myra Evans, Nancy Hurst and Ginny Smith and Maggie Lair. Special congratulations to Trudy Baker, who received a \$50 gift certificate for visiting and making a purchase at ALL 25 participating locations!



A HUGE THANK YOU to participating businesses:

AC Veterinary Clinic, Alma's Herbs, CH-F Auxiliary Gift Shop, Clark's Fairfax C-Store, Daybreak Cafe, Do it Best Hardware, Dusty Trail, Ella&Grey, EM's Emporium, Flower Mill, Food Country, Groovy's Grub, Hidden Beauty, Hy-Vee, KG Buds, Living Well on Main (Cindy Thomas LMT), MDT Woodworks, Midwest Data Smart Store, Quilters Boutique, Sew It Seams, Stoner Drug, Tarkio Avalanche Screen Printing & Signs, The Walnut Shop, Torrey Pines, and Trails End.

Our 2019 challenge: the 3/50 project®

- 1) Pick three AC businesses you would miss if they were no longer around
- 2) Commit to spending at least \$50 in those 3 stores every month (that's less than \$17/store!)

Let's actively, purposefully, tenaciously support AC businesses throughout the coming year.

In 2019, let's **Think AC First!**

<http://www.the350project.net/home.html>