



# ATCHISON COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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## Business Improvement Grant - funding still available!

We love this grant for many reasons, but mostly because it's a tangible way to show you that we love and support our amazing local businesses! In its 13th year, our BI grant has helped with almost 180 different projects over the years, from the purchase of new equipment, to infrastructure improvements, to signage, and everything in between.



This matching grant program supports projects that improve aesthetics, safety and/or function of existing businesses. Two grant levels are available: the Basic, which reimburses up to 1/2 of the cost of eligible improvements, (max. \$1,000); and the 2.0, which reimburses up to 1/3 of the cost of eligible improvements (max. \$2,500). Around \$9,500 remains in this year's grant fund.

If you're considering a project, here are a few guidelines to keep in mind...

- A business is eligible for any ACDC grant once every 3 years.
- Eligible projects must be approved prior to making purchases or beginning work.
- Completed applications (with vendor estimates, project budget, and proof of being current on taxes and licensure) are considered in the order they are received.

Questions? Don't hesitate to ask. We're here for you every step of the way!

## ACDC's Informational Community Events

In March we host lunches around the county. This year's were as informative as always! In Rock Port, we heard from Restore Rock Port (Regan Griffin) and the Atchison County Library (Jennifer Roup). In Tarkio, Parks and Recreation (Paige Agnew) and Tarkio Tech (Johnnie Davis) provided updates. In Fairfax, we heard past, present and future talks from Fairfax Kiwanis (Danny Kemerling), Community Hospital-Fairfax (Ann Schlueter) and Atchison-Holt Ambulance District (Noah Mays). Though these lunches may have once been geared toward the business community, we encourage **anyone** interested in what's happening in their community (and county!) to attend. Free lunch and great information - what else could a person want on a Wednesday in March!?

The other annual community event we host is our Annual Meeting, where we celebrate so many good things in Atchison County! Mark your calendars - this year it is scheduled the evening of Wednesday, September 10, at the Velma Houts Building in Rock Port.



*Thank you to the 132 individuals, small businesses and corporations who have become ACDC members this year - you help us do even more great things for our county! Check the back page for the most recent list, and if you are interested in becoming a member, contact us ([acdc@atchisoncounty.org](mailto:acdc@atchisoncounty.org); 660-744-6562).*

## About ACDC

ACDC was organized in the 1970s as a volunteer board. Since 1995, ACDC's board and full-time staff have worked to improve the business climate in Atchison County. Today, ACDC staff provides support to community organizations and collaborates with county, regional and state groups to better our county.

***The Mission of ACDC:  
to initiate, stimulate and facilitate  
opportunity in Atchison County  
through economic and  
community development.***

## Great Northwest Day 2025 Recap



AC representatives with Gov. Mike Kehoe.

On February 4-5, over 250 community advocates from Northwest Missouri attended the 23rd Annual Great Northwest Day at the Capitol. Citizens from this nineteen-county region came together to educate legislators about our region and to discuss critical issues.

This year, Great Northwest Day's priorities focused on community revitalization, increasing childcare availability, increasing workforce, and workforce housing. To kick off the event, Monica Bailey, a member of the GNW Day Planning Committee, moderated a panel of individuals who inspired attendees by sharing ways they have worked to address these issues.



Senator Rusty Black.

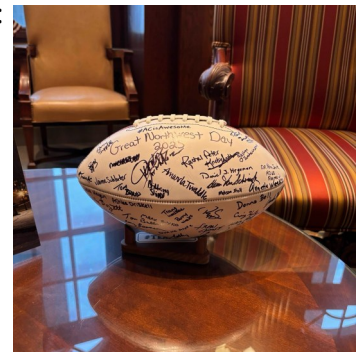
The Tuesday evening event, designed to promote our region, consisted of county/community booths touting local attributes. Over 400 attended the event including State Senators and Representatives as well as several representatives of State offices and departments. During the Wednesday morning breakfast, attendees heard from Jon Dolittle, President and CEO of the Missouri Hospital Association.

This year's Atchison County attendees were: Crystal Woodring (NW MO Living Center), Kamron Woodring (Drewes Construction), Ashlee Driskell (CH-F), Johnnie & Sondra Davis (Tarkio Tech), and Bailey (ACDC).

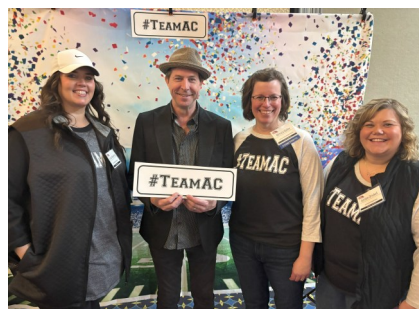


Representative Jeff Farnan.

At the evening event, Atchison County attendees were able to connect with Gov. Mike Kehoe, Sen. Rusty Black, Rep. Jeff Farnan, and dozens of other legislators and department staffers, including the Dept. of Economic Development and Missouri Partnership.



AC's #TeamAC theme included a sports-focused photo op, popcorn (a big hit!), and a slideshow of people from home showing their #TeamAC pride!



AC native Jason Riley, event entertainment!

AC also snagged signatures from a multitude of 2025 GNWD attendees as a keepsake for the new Governor's first GNWD, which now resides in his office!





## ACDC Emerging Workforce Events - March recap!

ACDC works hard to show kids (and their parents!) that it is possible to make a GOOD life here. If we look at the 300+ businesses in the county, we have examples of everything from companies that employ over 50 people to sole proprietorships. We have positions that require a high school education and positions that require advanced degrees. We have many successful businesses that will be in a position to retire in the near future, leaving tremendous opportunity in his or her wake. A bright future exists here, and at ACDC, we work diligently to prove it.

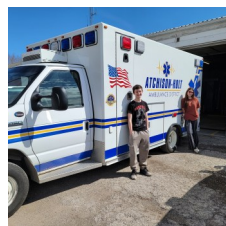
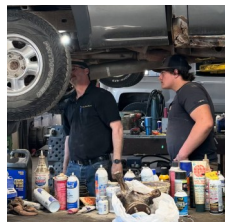


Each spring we offer opportunities for AC students to explore careers in the county.

### JOB SHADOWING

Working closely with our high school counselors and businesses, we strive to match students with job shadowing experiences that will benefit them as they consider their future plans. On March 26, 41 Juniors spent time at 25 different locations learning about more than 40 different Atchison County jobs. Thank you to the following locations for working with ACDC to host students!

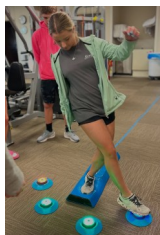
- Advanced Pork Systems
- Atchison County Veterinary Clinic
- Atchison-Holt Ambulance District
- Atchison-Holt Electric Coop
- Community Hospital-Fairfax
- Flower Mill/Buttercup
- Food Country
- Hidden Beauty
- Hoot & Holler
- Hurst Greenery
- Jumpstart Nutrition
- KJ's Café
- Meyerkorth Aviation
- Midwest Data Center
- Mo Valley Ag
- Pleasant View
- Quality Auto
- Rock Creek/Vestas
- Rock Port Family Medicine
- Tarkio Family Medicine
- True 2 U Autobody & Repair
- Viterra
- White Tee's



*Just a few of the many positions shadowed, and only a fraction of the businesses that were willing to host students that day! Thankful for a community that understands our end goal!*

### 8TH GRADE CAREER DAY

Glad to build on to CH-F's longstanding 8th grade career day by adding our afternoon field trip! Huge thanks to CH-F for feeding everyone (no small feat when there are 63 kids in a conference room!), and to Hurst Greenery and Advanced Pork Systems for hosting tours!



**ACDC Board & Staff**

**Directors:**

- \* Lori Seymour, President
- \* Craig Corken, Vice President
- \* Bob Alldredge, Treasurer
- \* Eryn Stepp, Secretary
- \* Jill Davis
- \* W.C. Farmer
- \* Mary Ann Hull
- \* Roger A. Martin
- \* Jeff Meyer

**Staff:**

- \* Monica M. Bailey, Executive Director
- \* Stephanie True, Bookkeeper/ Receptionist

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

321 S. Main Street  
P.O. Box 243  
Rock Port, MO 64482  
(660) 744-6562  
acd@atchisoncounty.org

Website:  
www.atchisoncounty.org

Facebook/Instagram  
(@atchisoncountydevelopment)

ACDC will be closed on the following holidays:  
Friday, Apr. 18: Good Friday • Thursday, May 8: Truman Day • Monday, May 26: Memorial Day  
*If you're involved with a community event this summer, contact us with details and we'll be glad to include it in our list of AC events that will be posted on Facebook and shared in our next newsletter!*

**ACDC Membership**

ACDC Members: we are so encouraged when you support us with your membership, which enhances our economic and community development work on many fronts. Community enrichment projects supported by your dollars include Battle of the Books, scholarships for graduating Seniors, county improvement projects, and scholarships for our regional leadership program. Thank you for your support!

Below are the individuals, small businesses and corporations who submitted their membership since our last newsletter!

- Ag Partners Cooperative
- Atchison County Mail
- Bank Midwest
- Bressler's Academy of Martial Arts
- Burlap & Bows
- C.K. Outdoor Adventures
- Chamberlain Funeral Home
- Citizens Bank & Trust
- City of Rock Port
- Carol Clark
- Mike & Katherine Cox
- Creekside Autowash
- David Scarbrough, DDS
- Deatz Farms, Inc.
- Cecil DeMott
- Designs by Jayne
- Dusty Trail Cafe & Steakhouse
- Fairfax Methodist Church
- Farmers State Bank
- Fertilizer Service Company
- First Presbyterian Church
- Ron Frede
- David & Kay Gebhards
- Golden Salon & Boutique
- Grebe Farm Supply
- Greenlight Dispensary
- Griffin Farms Partnership
- Natalie Harmon
- Pam Henderson
- Earlene Hicks
- Hometown Comfort Crew
- Hoot & Holler
- Hope N Reigns Counseling
- Hy-Vee
- Jacob Erdman Agency / Shelter Insurance
- Jones Law Office
- Just in Time Promotions
- Just In Time Rental
- Keeping Track of Time
- Kelly's Welding & Repair
- Dennis & Phyllis Martin
- Roger & Ann Martin
- Michael Shaw Trucking
- Midwest Data Center
- Kyra Mills
- Minter Funeral Chapels
- McDonald's
- MO Valley Ag
- The MVMNT Studio
- New York Life
- Northwest Missouri Industries
- Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments
- Richard & LaDonna Panka
- A Perfect 10
- Perry Plumbing and Septic
- Pleasant View
- Q & M Snowing and Mowing
- R3 Tree Service
- Ray's Dairy Diner
- Rock Port Oil & Tire
- Rock Port Telephone
- Rogers Pharmacy
- Ruffled Feathers
- Matt & Ann Schlueter
- Second Amendment Firearms
- Lane & Aimee Seymour
- Bill & Susan Slaughter
- Soaksemclean
- Squaw Creek Lodge
- Stolt's Fitness
- Stoner Drug
- Super 8 Motel
- Tarkio Board of Public Works
- Tarkio Chamber of Commerce
- Tarkio Golf Club, Inc.
- Tarkio R-I Schools
- Tarkio Tech
- Jane Thompson
- Trails End/Subway
- Jack & Ginny Vernon
- Watson United Methodist
- White Tee's
- Young Enterprises

