



ANNUAL REPORT

Aiming Higher

REFLECT • PIVOT • GROW



gredf
The Power of Partnership

#RightOnQ



OUR VISION > > >



Serving Quincy & Adams County Right On Q

To preserve and enhance the business climate in the Quincy & Adams County, Illinois region through targeted and strategic economic development activities...

Workforce Solutions

Working with businesses & educational institutions to ensure existing & new businesses alike will have the qualified workforce they require to grow

45x30 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN > > >

> > > WORKFORCE ATTRACTION + RETENTION

1. Immigrant Recruitment | Talent Attraction

- Puerto Rico – Avance Consulting Pilot with Blessing, QMG, Knapheide and Dot Foods
- Beardstown – GREDF and JWCC discussions

2. Talent Attraction & Retention Program (TARP)

- LiveQuincy.com website adjustments
- Pilot TARP: focus on manufacturing in Lordstown, OH

3. Concierge Program | Welcome Team

- Newcomer & Boomerang Community Onboarding
- Videos and Guide & Guest / Family applications

GRANT SUBMISSIONS > > >

- Moorman Foundation – Awarded workforce grant
- Grand Victoria Foundation – Submitted for \$50,000
- Restore, Reinvest, and Renew (R3) Program – Submitted information obo Quanada Partnership

ADAMS COUNTY WORKS – WORKFORCE TEAMS > > >

- Career Guidance: 4 Leadership | 4 Team Meetings
- Work Readiness: 4 Leadership | 4 Team Meetings
- Transition Planning: 4 Leadership | 4 Team Meetings

Career Guidance Team

- High School Senior Student Questionnaire
- Updated and distributed Senior Resource Sheet



Work Readiness Team

- Marketing – vinyl Work Readiness Certification prints: 10 city buses and 25 city bus shelters
- Junior Achievement Career Fair at Quincy University

Transition Planning Team | Lunch Time Seminars

- “Self-Branding” | Craig Heming, Doors & More
- “Increasing the Bottom Line Through Inclusive Culture” | Latonya Brock, Executive Director - Chamber
- “Leading From Within” | Julie Boll Consulting
- “Artificial Intelligence in the Workplace” | Eric Thomas, Owner – Electric Oak
- “How to Manage Remote Work” | Diana Mast, Sr. Project Delivery Specialist – Blue Cross Blue Shield

Work Based Learning Initiative | Present for HS seniors

- Adams County Regional Safe School director
- Business Presentations: Craig Industries, Phibro and Manchester Tank

OTHER WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS > > >

- WGEM / Herald-Whig Career Fair Meeting
- Pilot “Who Run The World – GIRLS” (empowerment event): Speakers shared with eight teenaged mothers
Topics: “Shining Your Light” & “Passion, Pain, Purpose”
- Virtual Job Fair – GREDF, Illinois workNet Center, and Workforce Innovation Board of Western Illinois
- Virtual Tri-State MakerFest – Eight company videos

Entrepreneurship

Providing assistance to individuals and small business owners to help grow our economy

- 10 Business Planning Meetings | Finance & Incentives
- 2 Business Expansion Meetings
- 12 Marketing Assistance Meetings
- 2 Building Purchase / Development Meetings
- 3 Location Assistance Connections
- 5 Relocation Assistance Projects
- 2 Transition / Business Sale Planning

OUR VALUES >>>

We view economic development as a collaborative process, resulting in an environment that benefits the community as well as business...

STRATEGIC PLAN >>> AIMING HIGHER

Business Attraction

Promoting the region to prospective businesses and site consultants

45x30 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN >>>

>>> RETAIL ATTRACTION PACKAGES

Major Retailers: Contacted with packages

- Burlington Stores – NJ Corporate: Chris Keihler, Midwest Regional Dir.
- Meijers Stores – MI Corporate: Michael Flickenger, Dir. of Real Estate
- Target Stores – Minneapolis, MN: Brian Treber, Regional Real Estate Dir.
- Costco – Seattle, WA Corporate: David Messner, Sr. VP of Real Estate and Jackie Frank, VP of Real Estate Development
- Bass Pro Shops / Cabela's – Springfield, MO Corporate: Steve Krajewski, Corporate Dir. of Real Estate *(Bass has 12 former Cabela's stores to sub-lease)*

Retail Package Contents:

- Customer demographic information by 10-50 mile radius & 25-60 minute drive times
- Tapestry by radius & drive time *(Tapestry is a definition of residents by age, income, household, life status etc. to define buying habits)*
- Existing Major Retailers: List of companies and store type
- Specific Site Information: Former Shopko, Kmart, County Market & Quincy Mall availability

PROJECTS PACKAGES SENT >>>

- PABCO Building Supplies
- American Felt Roofing Products
- Wadley Donovan Consulting – Call Center Project
- Consolidated Barge Company – Signed lease with ADM for new barge service focused on steel products
- Corn Belt Ports Association Approved – GREDF and WIU (Rural Institute) with Colonel Bob Sinkler established regional port alliance consisting of Quincy, Quad Cities and Peoria Ports. This is driven by Port Statistical Area.

STATE DEPT OF COMMERCE INQUIRIES >>>

- Project Oak – Manufacturing Project
- Project Ocean Wave – Manufacturing project
- Project Pace – Chemical Manufacturing

Business Retention & Expansion

Regular visits with area businesses to identify opportunities and threats

Ongoing | BRE Meetings with top companies

Local Quincy & Adams County Expansion Projects

1. 30,000 square foot pet food components expansion
2. 60,000 square foot manufacturing expansion
3. Steel logistics distribution project – coordinate with Consolidated Barge Company
4. Adams Fiber – supported applications for broadband / fiber projects in rural areas



Marketing & Branding

Communicating a clear and concise Quincy & Adams County brand to potential investors and businesses

45x30 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN | TOURISM > > >

1. **Encouraging local staycations & spending**
2. **ACT Programs:** Q-Town Cash, Shop Local, Opening Up Together toolkit

PRESS & PRESENTATIONS | YEAR TO DATE > > >

24 local media interviews | Television & Radio
11 presentations to groups
29 eDevelopment issues | 17 Press Conferences

> > > STATE BOARDS | COMMITTEES | PARTNERSHIPS

- City Strategic Planning: Transportation & Riverfront
- Sister City Commission Meetings
- Regional Workforce Innovation Board Member
- Illinois Economic Development Association | Board
- The District | Executive Board, development & economic vitality committee
- Quincy Area CVB | Board, research & strategic planning
- Quincy Art Center | Exec. Board, development chair
- Quincy Chamber | Diversity & Inclusion Team
- Appointed City of Quincy Arts Commission
- 6th Street Property & Business Owners
- Community Youth Initiative Board planning sessions
- Bella Ease Board Treasurer & personnel chair
- Culver Stockton Career Fair

Membership

Growing our investments in order to maintain a qualified staff & provide exceptional economic development services

105 paid GREDF Members
Investment billed | \$164,350
Investment received | \$147,500

Fewer members, higher investment, lowest outstanding invoices

Adams County Together Task Force

Community & businesses, uniting and collaborating across sectors, working through challenges & crisis

ADAMS COUNTY TOGETHER TASK FORCE > > >

- ACT: website and Facebook,
- Resources for Individuals + Businesses
- 31 Pandemic Small Business Meetings on State and Federal Incentives
- United Way Business Resource Team
- ACT Fund: Board contributions
- Road to Recovery Framework: Regional mitigation and reopen plan
- Opening Up Together Toolkit: Creation & distribution to businesses
- ACT Videos: Nine videos answering business questions and guidelines
- Partner Resource Calls with the Chamber & The District: Fifteen calls regarding COVID updates, business & medical questions, wellness & self care, workplace readiness, Opening Up Together toolkit, insurance & legal
- Q-Town Cash Program: For businesses affected: \$36,000 into economy
- Mask Up 21 Day Challenge: 21 days of support and guidance
- Fall & Winter Fun: Seasonal tips while following guidance
- What's Happening Adams County: Things to do, wellness and self care
- Love Local Gift Box: For local businesses



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Angela Caldwell | Workforce Development Certification
National Association of Workforce Development

Joi Cuartero Austin | Certified Economic Developer
International Economic Development Council

OUR FOCUS > > >

POWER OF PARTNERSHIP





Great River Economic Development Foundation
300 Civic Center Plaza | Suite 256 | Quincy, IL 62301
(217) 223-4313 | greddf@gredf.org | www.gredf.org

