

Thank you to our investors

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT OF WAYNE COUNTY

PLATINUM

City of Orrville/Orrville Utilities
Daisy Brand
Noble Foundation
Schaeffler Group
Seaman Corporation
The J.M. Smucker Co.
United Titanium
Wayne County Board of Commissioners

GOLD

American Axle & Manufacturing
Akron Brass
BCI, Buckeye Corrugated, Inc. - Wooster Division
Briggs Financial Group
Commercial & Savings Bank
Farmers National Bank
Huntington
Jarrett Companies, Inc.
McElroy Packaging
The Ohio State University CFAES Wooster Campus
Venture Products, Inc.
Wayne Savings Community Bank
Western Reserve Group
Westfield Bank
Wooster Community Hospital

SILVER

Artiflex
Campbell Construction
Certified Angus Beef
City of Wooster
Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston

D+S Distribution
G&S Bar and Wire LLC
Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Hummel Group, Inc.
MCTV
Meaden & Moore
Morton Salt
Pallotta Ford Lincoln
PRC-Salttillo
RBB
Rea & Associates, Inc.
The Apple Creek Banking Co.
The College of Wooster
The Will-Burt Company
Wooster Glass Co.
Wooster Hydrostatics, Inc.

BRONZE

Akron Children's Hospital
Armstrong
Aultman Orrville Hospital
Bloomington Medical Services
Bogner Construction Company
Boreman Norton Cook Wealth Partners
Buckeye Oil Producing Company
City of Rittman
Cleveland Clinic
Dasco Home Medical Equipment
Dix 1898, Inc.
Engineering Associates, Inc.
E-Pak Manufacturing LLC
Flextur
Kitty Poo Club

McClintock Electric, Inc.
Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce
PFI Displays
PNC
Ross & Storck, Ltd.
Speed North America
The Village Network
The Wooster Brush Company
Wayne County Community Foundation
Wayne County Farm Bureau
Wayne County Schools Career Center
Wayne Insurance Group
Weaver Custom Homes
Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company
Whisler Plumbing & Heating
Whitaker Myers Group
Wooster Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine

SUPPORTER

AC Split Bolt
AEP
Compak
Dominion Energy
Global Body & Equipment
Goodwill Industries of Wayne & Holmes Counties
Lowe & Young, Inc.
Main Street Wooster
Murr Printing & Graphics
Park National Bank
Steinhurst Farms
TILMOR LLC
Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce



Wayne Economic
Development Council
WAYNE COUNTY, OHIO

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Connecting the pieces
for a stronger county

A special thank you to the companies that have continued to support and invest in the WEDC for 20+ years:

Akron Brass
American Axle & Manufacturing (Tekfor)
American Electric Power
Bogner Construction Company
Briggs Financial Group
BCI, Buckeye Corrugated, Inc. - Wooster Division
Buckeye Oil Producing Company
Campbell Construction
City of Orrville
City of Rittman
City of Wooster
Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston
D + S Distribution
Dominion Energy
Engineering Associates, Inc.
First Energy
Huntington
Freeman Building Systems
Frito-Lay North America
Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Lorain Medina Rural Electric Co-Op
Luke Engineering & Anodizing Co.
Meaden & Moore
Murrs Printing & Graphics
Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce
The Ohio State University CFAES Wooster Campus
RBB
Ross & Storck, Ltd.
Schaeffler Group
Seaman Corporation
Steinhurst Farms
The Apple Creek Banking Co.
The J.M. Smucker Co.
The Will-Burt Company
The Wooster Brush Company
United Titanium
Wayne County Commissioners
Wayne County Schools Career Center
Western Reserve Group
Whitaker Myers Group
Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce

For more than 30 years, the Wayne Economic Development Council (WEDC) has been focused on connecting the pieces for continued growth and prosperity in Wayne County. The joy of puzzle making comes from working together, focusing on the end goal and realizing that all pieces of a puzzle are equally important as collectively all pieces need to come together to be successful.

In 2022, the WEDC refreshed its mission and vision then outlined our strategic priorities- focusing on cultivating, connecting and aligning networks within and beyond Wayne County; supporting business development and growth; and driving critical issues to ensure Wayne County's competitiveness.

The WEDC then embarked on a five-year Investor Campaign, *Transforming Today for a Prosperous Tomorrow*, which has included more than 100 investor meetings thus far. Not only have these investor meetings proven the strength and diversity of area businesses, but they have also provided valuable insight into some "key pieces," that once connected, will only make Wayne County stronger.

One of the main strategic initiatives is to drive a focused set of issues key to Wayne County's future competitiveness, allowing the WEDC to facilitate efforts to create a talent attraction program. To talk about business growth, workforce issues must be addressed, which is why the Work in Wayne website (workinwayne.com) was revamped last year, allowing job seekers to learn more about working, living, learning and playing in Wayne County.

The lack of options and costs of childcare programs prohibit some from entering or staying in the workforce. Local businesses are even considering offering childcare options on location, which is why the WEDC and Community Action Wayne/Medina are partnering together to bring a Childcare Roundtable on May 11 (details to follow).

Housing is another key piece outlined in this initiative, so the WEDC plans to conduct a

housing assessment for short and long-term county-wide housing needs. The hope is to provide answers to the type of housing really needed in the county based on demographics; single-family, apartments or senior living.

Not only will this initiative address workforce and housing needs, but it will also focus on developing long-term strategy for future growth, determining the best path for growth/ expansion, while being cognizant of the importance of Wayne County's farmland.

The WEDC is focused on preserving and enhancing Wayne County's quality of life and supports the growth of our cities, villages and townships. The WEDC established Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA) in Dalton and Shreve in 2022, and will also support the development of a CRA in Smithville in 2023.

Continuing to nurture, grow and support our existing diverse business base through the BIZCONNECTS program, ensures Wayne County retains quality jobs. The WEDC is also excited to have a strong pipeline of leads for potential projects to bring to available sites.

In 2023, the WEDC looks forward to connecting these key pieces while staying connected with our regional and state economic development partners and continuing to collaborate with local economic development teams to ensure Wayne County businesses are connected to programs and resources for the betterment of the county.

As we all know, there is great satisfaction when the final picture of a puzzle is complete, and the WEDC is confident that area businesses will feel the same way when these key pieces all come together revealing a stronger Wayne County.

We greatly appreciate those investing in Wayne County and the WEDC and for those sharing their time and talents as part of our Board of Directors and Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

Lesley Mast
Chairman of the Board

Maribeth Burns
President

THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 EVENT SERIES SPONSORS:



THE WEDC TEAM

Maribeth Burns
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2022 BY THE NUMBERS

662
JOBS CREATED

MORE THAN
\$209M
IN TOTAL
INVESTMENTS

**2022 Site
Selection Recap**
22 leads
1 site visit

**Wayne County Site
Submissions**
Rittman 15
Wooster 18

2022 WINS IN REVIEW



Award Winning Micropolitan Area

The Wooster Micropolitan Statistical Area is in the top 8% of the best performing micropolitan areas in the country according to Site Selection's Annual Governors Cup Rankings and was ranked 7th out of 543 micropolitans in the country from Policom's Economic Strength Rankings report.

Transforming Today for a Prosperous Tomorrow

The Wayne Economic Development Council's Five-year Investor Campaign



Steve Matthew,
Honorary Chair

Thank you for supporting Wayne County!

A MESSAGE FROM STEVE MATTHEW

Even though Wayne County has been fortunate to enjoy consistent economic growth over the years, the Wayne Economic Development Council was formed more than 30 years ago to ensure continued growth and prosperity for our county. It was important to focus on retaining and growing our diverse, driven and dynamic business base.



Adam Briggs,
Co-Chair

Here we are over 30 years later, and Wayne County remains strong. The WEDC works hard fostering collaboration between business, agriculture, government, and education, as well as working closely with local, regional and state economic development partners to ensure our businesses are connected to programs and resources for the betterment of Wayne County.

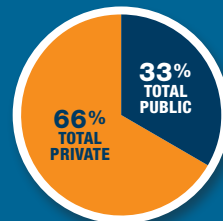


Scott Boyes,
Co-Chair

Like me, if you truly appreciate Wayne County's collaboration, values and quality of life, you'll join me in supporting the WEDC, as we're excited to see what the next 30 years will bring!

KEEPING WAYNE COUNTY STRONG!

**2023-2027
Investor
Campaign
Goal**
\$3.7M



Current funding model

As of April 10, 2023



75% OF GOAL
20 NEW INVESTORS

Quality Growth Award Winners

Corporate Investment

Congratulations to the following companies for their continued growth and investment in Wayne County:

- Daisy Brand
- Flextur (formerly Pioneer Equipment)
- Jarrett Companies
- McElroy Packaging
- The J.M. Smucker Company
- The Wooster Brush Company
- Weaver Commercial Contractor

Community Investment

Congratulations on investing and enhancing the quality of life in Wayne County:

- Woosterly

Chris Schmid – Community Impact Award

Congratulations and thank you for the positive impact made on Wayne County through philanthropic and economic development support:

- Award winner to be announced at Annual Meeting

Wayne County Quick Facts 2022

Data from TeamNEO



117,317

Population



60,642

People in workforce



4,501+

Employers



2,034

Farms



\$7.23B

GRP (Gross Regional Product)



2.9%

Unemployment rate (national 3.3%)



23.9%

Bachelor's degree+ (2021)



15,039

Manufacturing jobs (national avg: 4,095 per county)

Moving Forward in 2023

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Cultivate, Connect & Align Networks

Within & Beyond Wayne County



Support Business Development

With Attention to Retention & Expansion



Drive Critical Issues

To ensure future competitiveness

MISSION

Partner, Promote, Prosper

The Wayne Economic Development Council is a business-led, public private partnership that maintains and promotes the strength of Wayne County's cities, villages and agricultural areas. By aligning and engaging key stakeholders, the WEDC fosters balanced and sustained economic growth and prosperity for Wayne County and addresses issues critical to its competitiveness.

VISION

The Wayne Economic Development Council is a leading and collaborative go-to organization that contributes to Wayne County's national recognition for achieving high quality growth that benefits both businesses and residents while maintaining a balance between industry, agriculture, commercial and residential development.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Amstutz, Wayne County Board of Commissioners

Bob Breneman, City of Wooster

Dave Handwerk, City of Orrville

Randy Kitzmiller, Venture Products, Inc.

Ben Maibach, The Wooster Brush Company

Lesley Mast*, Rea & Associates, Inc.

Lynn Moomaw*, Wayne County Schools Career Center

John Nicholas, The J.M. Smucker Co.

Don Noble*, United Titanium

Bill Robertson, City of Rittman

Eddie Steiner*, Commercial & Savings Bank

Kurt Steiner, Steinhurst Farms

Jeff Swartz*, Seaman Corporation

Mike Toth*, Westfield Bank

Kevin Trent, D&S Distribution, Inc.

* 2023 Executive Committee

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Lisa Armstrong, Schaeffler Group

Bobbie Beshara, City of Rittman

Greg Brunn, Western Reserve Group

Jina Duplain, AEP Ohio

Dan Franks, Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce

Bob Gorman, Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston

Matt Grassmyer, Daisy Brand

Jennifer Kessel, Aultman Health Foundation

Richard Lewin, The Will-Burt Company

Armand Massary, Artiflex

Clay Matthew, Wooster Hydrostatics, Inc.

Ray McConnel, TILMOR

Andrew Michel, The Ohio State University CFAES Wooster Campus

Amy Miller, PRC-Salttillo

Rich Owens, Wayne County Job and Family Services

Andrea Russell, Akron Brass

Bill Sheron, Wooster Community Hospital

Lindsay Shoup Tournoux, Wayne County Farm Bureau

Vince Tricomi, PFI Displays

Wayne Webster, The College of Wooster

Samira Zimmerly, Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce