
NEWS

Macoupin Economic Development Partnership

“Come grow with us.”

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Macoupin Economic Development Partnership reaches 1 year milestone

Macoupin County – The Macoupin Economic Development Partnership (MEDP) recently celebrated its one year anniversary of providing Macoupin County and local businesses with economic and community development services. In the first year the partnership has grown from the three original members to over thirty local businesses, organizations, and communities.

During the first year of operation MEDP has opened offices in Carlinville and Staunton to best serve the entire county, established a community development program, and provided services such as business retention, recruitment and expansion, grant writing, and capital investment assistance to numerous communities and new and existing businesses. The partnership has also helped both businesses and communities apply for and receive state and federal funding for economic development projects, such as the recently announced \$160,000 Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) grant to the City of Gillespie.

“The growth and success of the Macoupin Economic Development Partnership in just one year has already proven the organization to be a great asset and service to the people and businesses of Macoupin County,” said Andy Manar, Chairman of the Macoupin County Board. “As the Partnership continues to develop and expand so will the economic and community benefits received across the county.”

Beyond the regular programs and services offered, MEDP has also organized a variety of unique initiatives to better stimulate economic development in Macoupin County. MEDP created the Macoupin County Mayor’s Council which meets to discuss and coordinate efforts among all the local communities. The partnership has also taken part in numerous round table discussions with local and state elected officials, state agencies, Chambers of Commerce, and community leaders to help bring jobs and business to the area.

“We are very proud of the early accomplishments of the Macoupin Economic Development Partnership,” said MEDP Chairman Sue Campbell. “This would not have been possible without the devoted efforts of the County Board, the local communities and the local businesses that joined because they believed that, with MEDP, we can make Macoupin County an economic success story.”

Already in the early months of its second year of operation, MEDP has already kicked off new initiatives like the county-wide Shop Local campaign and the Build Macoupin County community development program, along with new downtown development and energy efficiency efforts.

At the Annual Meeting held in March, the MEDP Board of Directors elected member Sue Campbell from Community Memorial Hospital as the new Chairman and member Bill Borklund from NBS Systems as the Vice-Chairman.

The local municipalities and community organizations that have joined as members for the current year include Benld, Bunker Hill, Carlinville Chamber of Commerce, Gillespie, Modesto, Mount Olive, Palmyra,

Staunton, Royal Lakes, and the Virden Area Association of Commerce. The remainder of MEDP is made up of various local businesses and the Macoupin County Board.

Any business interested in becoming a member of the Macoupin Economic Development Partnership or who would like additional information about the organization are encouraged visit the website www.macoupinpartners.com, contact the MEDP office at (217)556.8696 or visit the Carlinville office at 18400 Shipman Road (Lewis and Clark building) or the Staunton office at 111 W. Main Street.

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