



2023

PROGRAM OF WORK



MISSION

Our mission is to be the leading resource for business and an effective influential community partner.

VISION

Our vision is a strong and prosperous economy that celebrates diversity, champions equity, and cultivates inclusion.



CORE VALUES

BUSINESS & COMMUNITY FOCUSED

We are focused on the business community and maintaining a strong economic environment.

INCLUSIVE COLLABORATION

We believe that each person has a unique and valuable perspective.

VISION WITH HEART

We are inspired to make a difference in our community because we believe this work matters.

ACTION DRIVEN SOLUTIONS

We help solve member problems by being an effective and reliable resource.

FUN

We create “Chamber magic” by cultivating joy and positivity in everything we do.

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Chair: Carman Booker, Bank 21

Leadership Blue Springs

Co-Chairs: Carman Booker, Bank 21; Lisa LaCombe, United Real Estate; Jaime Russell, Anthem Photography



Objective: To develop a leadership pool for the present and future of our community. Leadership participants develop skills and knowledge of the community through nine full-day sessions concerning topics such as government, education, economic development, law enforcement and quality of life.

DEI Task Force

Co-Chairs: Hannah Cook, Mid-Continent Public Library; Jenny Callaghan



Objective: To expand the Chamber's diversity efforts by encouraging cultural competency, evaluating the DEI needs of members and celebrating successes.

Fall Fun Festival

Co-Chairs: Bill Fickle, Side Pockets; Kelly O'Reilly, Looks of Shear Elegance; Bobby Hines, Sandy's Restaurant



Objective: To plan, promote and execute a successful Fall Fun Festival (September 15, 16, & 17, 2023) in downtown Blue Springs. This event is a community celebration and includes entertainment, a beer garden, carnival, food, game and vendor booths, and a parade. It is also the largest non-dues fundraiser for the Chamber each year.

MEMBER EVENTS & SERVICES DIVISION

Chair: Jeff Carpenter, Job One

Chamber Champions



Objective: To retain existing members of the Chamber and help new members successfully connect with other Chamber members in a way that promotes business.

Golf Tournament

Co-Chairs: Loretta Polzin, AFS Insurance; Eric Spring, ECS Capital Investments



Objective: To plan and promote a successful golf tournament (May 19, 2023 at Winterstone Golf Club). This tournament is a fundraiser for the Chamber and also facilitates interaction within the business community.

Lunch & Learn



Objective: To provide quarterly programs, each with a panel of business or community leaders, geared towards people and the development of soft skills such as relationship building, teamwork, communication, problem solving and leadership.

BUSINESS SUPPORT & PROMOTION DIVISION

Chair: Ashish Patel, Hampton Inn Kansas City/Blue Springs

Buy Blue Springs/Visitor's Task Force

Co-Chairs: Pam Wheeler, Genevieve's Home & Handmade; Ashish Patel, Hampton Inn Kansas City/Blue Springs



Objective: To promote the Buy Blue Springs and Discover Blue Springs program for the Chamber. Buy Blue Springs is an education and outreach marketing campaign encouraging residents to shop local. Discover Blue Springs is designed to encourage visitors to shop in Blue Springs.

Legislative Affairs Task Force

Co-chairs: Jon Burke, MCC Blue River; Jarvis Sackman, Hillcrest Transitional Housing



Objective: To encourage information sharing and to study local, state & federal legislative business issues.

Business of the Year & Not for Profit of the Year Awards

Co-chairs: Laura Bowlin, Blue Ridge Bank & Trust Co.; Melodie Chrisman, Community Services League



Objective: To promote & solicit applications for the Business and Not for Profit of the Year programs.

OTHER COMMITTEES & INITIATIVES

Executive Committee

Chair: Chairman of the Board - Cody RaitheL, Central Bank of the Midwest

Objective: To act on policy matters between regular board meetings, subject to ratification by the board, and plan for the Board of Director's meeting. This committee includes the officers of the Board of Directors, Divisional Vice Chairs and the President.

Financial Oversight

Chair: Treasurer - Erika Lucas, Sandy's Restaurant

Objective: To review the Chamber's finances monthly and report to the Board of Directors. This is a sub-committee of the Board and is by appointment only.

Nominating Committee

Chair: Appointed by the Board

Objective: To review potential candidates for the Board of Directors each year. This is a sub-committee of the Board and is by appointment only.

Strategic Planning

Chair: Chair Elect - Michael Scott, The Table

Objective: To ensure effective strategic planning for the Blue Springs Chamber of Commerce. This is a sub-committee of the Board and is by appointment only.



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cody RaitheL- Chairman of the Board
Central Bank of the Midwest

Michael Scott - Chair Elect
The Table

Chad Smith - Past Chairman
Chad Smith State Farm Insurance

Ashish Patel - Business Support
and Promotion
Hampton Inn Kansas City/Blue Springs

Erika Lucas - Secretary/Treasurer
Sandy's Restaurant

Jeff Carpenter - Membership
Events & Services
Job One

Carman Booker, Leadership & Community
Development
Bank 21

Jenny Callaghan

Melodie Chrisman
Community Services League Blue Springs

Warren Goessling
Kohl's Distribution Center

Travis Hunt
New York Life Insurance

Lisa LaCombe
United Real Estate

Kirk Lair
Central Jackson County Fire
Protection District

Lorne Meinershagen
Meinershagen & Co.

Dr. Thomas Meyer
MCC - Blue River

Jason Norbury
City of Blue Springs

Bobby Olm-Shipman
Saint Luke's East Hospital

Vanessa Starke
Starke Law Offices, LLC

Katie Woolf
Blue Springs R-IV School District