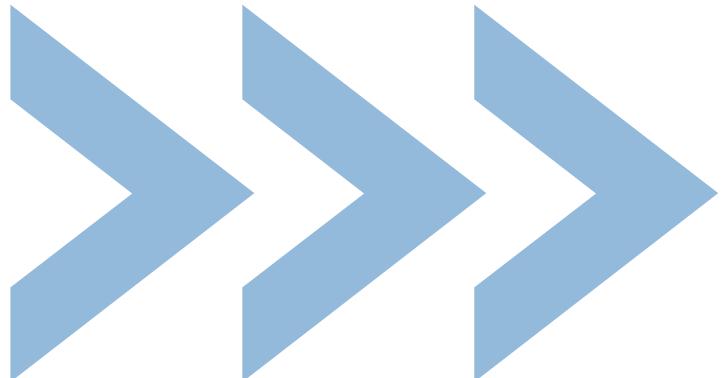


2025 **ANNUAL REPORT**



BOWLING GREEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LEADERSHIP

Meredith Wilson
Interim President & CEO,
Bowling Green Area Chamber of
Commerce



Andy Barker
2025 Board Chairman,
Bowling Green Area Chamber of
Commerce



A LETTER FROM THE **LEADERSHIP**

As we look back on 2025, our region continues to show what's possible when business, education, and workforce development move forward as one. This year, collaboration wasn't just a strategy—it was a defining strength. Together, our partners helped expand pathways for talent, diversify the economy, and fuel economic growth across South Central Kentucky.

From innovative training programs and employer-led partnerships to expanded engagement at Chamber events and new opportunities for leadership development, our momentum continued to accelerate. We welcomed business expansions, celebrated groundbreaking projects, and strengthened the workforce pipeline that powers our growing economy. These achievements reflect a shared belief that our people—and the companies who invest here—are our greatest advantage.

Thank you to every partner, educator, investor, and employer who devoted time, expertise, and resources to our mission. Because of you, South Central Kentucky is building a more diverse economy, creating high-quality jobs, and preparing a skilled, future-ready workforce. And the best part: we are just getting started.



MISSION

We provide valuable services to our partners, advocate a positive business environment, and stimulate economic development for South Central Kentucky.

VISION

The Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce is the driving force for South Central Kentucky's business community.

VALUES

Values are the standards that influence every aspect of our lives. Values provide the direction to decisions made by our organization. In all that we do, let us demonstrate our core values:

INCLUSIVENESS | We embrace behavior and actions that respect and honor the background, diversity, and contributions of all in our community.

INTEGRITY | We believe in demonstrating the strength, moral principles, honesty, and ethics that warrant the trust of the community.

LEADERSHIP | We believe that the community can only grow and prosper if we have the courage to be bold in our vision and stand by our convictions.

SERVICE | We value a commitment to service and believe responsibility and duty are imperative to enrich the community.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Andy Barker
CHAIR

Julie Milam
VICE CHAIR

Roddy Grimes

Chris Higgins

Travis Keller

Michelle Lawless

Mark Perdue

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andy Barker
Jason Boyd
Jennifer Breiwa-Smith
Amy Chandler
Steve Clarke
Rob Clayton
Matt Coffey

Heather Coleman Brooks
Jacob Cuarta
Bart Darrell
Mike D'Eramo
Roddy Grimes
Chris Higgins
Hillary Hightower

Travis Keller
Michele Lawless
John Lee
Zach Massey
Julie Milam
Chris Mosley
Mark Perdue

Kendra Sewell
Brandon Shirley
Monica Wardlow
Sam Younger
Tahir Zukic

AMBASSADORS

Derek Olive (Chair)
Sarah Widener (Vice Chair)
Sergio Beltran
Jack Blair
Amy Chandler
Joe Davis
Jeremy Frye

Nermina Handzic
Dan Harbison
Ken Haycraft
Clark Hayden
Drew Hubbard
Courtney Ingram
Rebecca Lee
Sonja Meador

Kayla Morris
Lisa Oliver
Tracey Pharris
Justin Raque
Gary Reckart
Ashley Reynolds
Tony Rhoades
Kendall Roper

Claudia Sweeney
Mary Vitale
Tamara Vogler
Monica Wardlow
Jackson Washer
Tony Witty
Kevin Yates



1,258
ACTIVE CHAMBER PARTNERS

194
NEW PARTNERS



State & National Recognition:

- Excellence in Membership Retention - 87% (KCCE)
- Five Star Accreditation (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)



PARTNERSHIP, PROGRAMS & EVENTS



123

TOTAL EVENTS

78

PARTNER CELEBRATIONS,
RIBBON CUTTINGS, &
GROUNDBREAKINGS

358

VOLUNTEERS

4,000

VOLUNTEER HOURS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

EXISTING BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION



To grow jobs and investment through a proactive retention and expansion program focused on our existing targeted businesses.



AWARDS

AWARD WINNERS

John B. Holland Business of the Year

Country Oven Bakery

Healthcare Enterprise Award

Graves Gilbert Clinic

Med Center Health

TriStar Greenview Regional Hospital

Business Innovation Award

BlueCotton

General Motors Bowling Green

Assembly Plant

CROWN Cork & Seal

Green-to-Gold Award

Gracious Living

Newcomer Award

Caza Innovations

OgMentum ARK

AAA Cooper

Business Expansion

MetalWorks Recycle Reload

Emerging Technology Business

Caza Innovations



STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

NEW BUSINESS ATTRACTION



To grow targeted sector jobs and investment through the implementation of cluster strategies focused on: Advanced Manufacturing; Motorsports; Plastics; Food Manufacturing; Technology-Based Back Office; Corporate Headquarters and others.



- Nationally recognized hub for business growth and economic opportunity
- Prime destination for manufacturing, distribution, and emerging technology industries
- Strategic central location within a 34-state market
- Access to 60% of the U.S. population within a day's drive
- More than five billion dollars in capital investment over the past decade
- Over ten thousand jobs created in the past decade



4,100+ TRANSPARK EMPLOYMENT



122 TARGETED BUSINESSES

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE TALENT DEVELOPMENT

SCK LAUNCH K-12



Leader In Me

- 14 Elementary Leader in Me Lighthouse Schools
- 3 Legacy Elementary Lighthouse Schools

Experience – 8th Grade (2016 to 2025)

- Total students impacted since inception: 26,186.
- October 2025: 3,258 Students, 183 Educators, 12 School Districts, 26 schools (Public, Private, Homeschool Network)

Career Shadowing – 11th & 12th Grades

- 2017 – 2025: 3,455 High School students impacted by Career Shadowing
- 2024-2025: 43 Career Shadowing Events impacting 713 students and 94 educators with 24 participating businesses.

Student Ambassadors – High School

- 91 student ambassadors during the 2024-25 school year.

Job Fair – Graduating Seniors (May 2025)

- 180 Seniors, 353 Interviews, 21 Companies, 50 accepted positions.

Educator Externship – Educators

- 338 Educators impacted through one-day Externship since 2017.
- July 2025: 44 Educators impacted by 2 events at 2 businesses.

Business Participation

- 145 Businesses have participated in SCK LAUNCH across all 7 sectors.



BGYP

Young Professionals

Bowling Green Young Professionals

Bowling Green Young Professionals (BGYP) is a vibrant network for leaders under 40 who want to grow, connect, and make an impact. We bring together professionals across industries to build meaningful relationships, accelerate their careers with purpose, and strengthen their sense of belonging in the Bowling Green community.



165
MEMBERS

10
EVENTS

68%
INCREASE IN EVENT ATTENDANCE

28
COMMITTEE MEMBERS





LEADERSHIP Bowling Green

explore. connect. inspire.

The **Leadership Bowling Green** program is an exclusive opportunity for established and emerging leaders to become immersed in learning about our community.

Leadership Bowling Green ignites a passion for civic engagement and community leadership. The mission is to Explore, Connect, and Inspire.



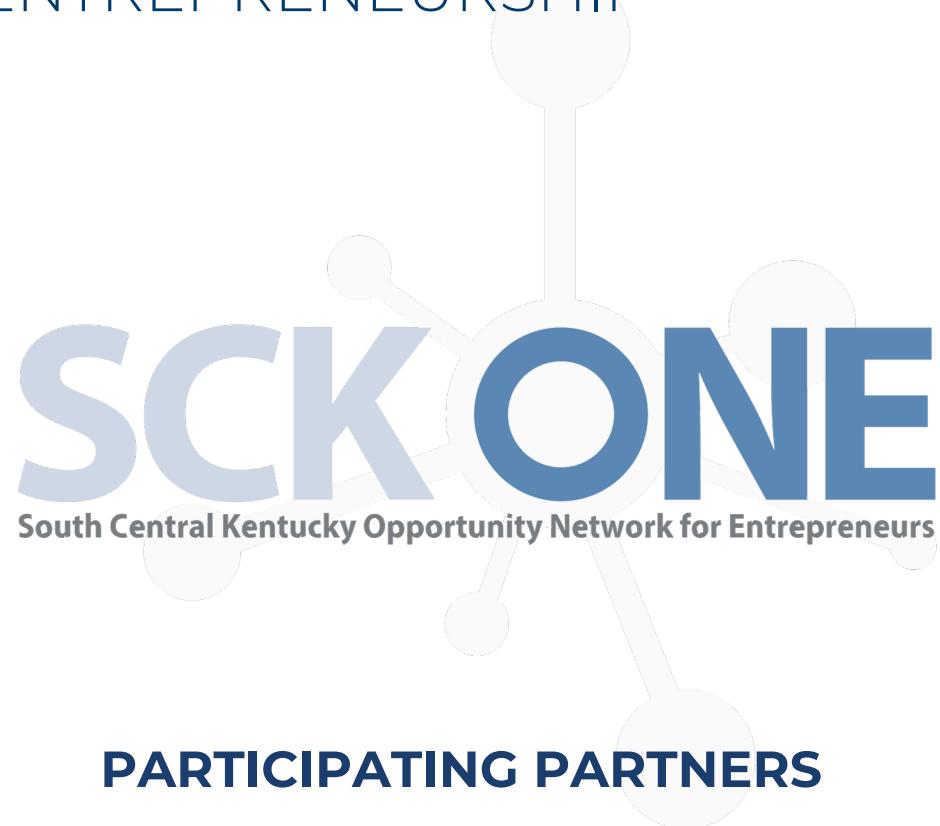
2025 Class | 34 Class Members

- Class of 2025
 - 105 Participating Businesses
 - 31 Locations
 - 43 Alumni Day Chairs
 - 88 Speakers
 - 425 Volunteer Hours Completed



STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



PARTICIPATING PARTNERS



U.S. Small Business
Administration



Connect and grow innovation and technology companies; to increase the number of innovation and technology businesses in South Central Kentucky that create new high-tech jobs and increase capital investment in technology and innovation in South Central Kentucky.

6 STARTUP
GARDENS

11 EVENTS
IN 2025

3 NEW
MASTERCLASS
TRAINING EVENTS
FOR SMALL
BUSINESSES

1 SMALL
BUSINESS
SUMMIT & EXPO
1 SBA SMALL
BUSINESS
EVENT

87%
CHAMBER
PARTNERS ARE
SMALL BUSINESSES
-- 10 EMPLOYEES
OR LESS.



PRESIDENT'S CLUB

EMPOWER THE VISION TO DRIVE THE FUTURE

President's Club partners invest beyond their Chamber partnership.

They invest in supporting the economic development strategy of South Central Kentucky.

Presenting



Diamond Star



Emerald Star



Platinum Star



English Lucas Priest & Owsley, LLP



Gold Star

Atmos Energy
Bell, Orr, Ayers & Moore, PSC
BILSTEIN COLD ROLLED STEEL LP
Bowling Green Metalforming
Bowling Green Municipal Utilities

CROWN Cork and Seal
Franklin Bank & Trust Company
German American Bank
Graves-Gilbert Clinic
Independence Bank

Kerrick Bachert PSC
McCoy Construction & Forestry
TriStar Greenview Regional Hospital
Warren County Water District

Silver Star

Aerospace Composites Solutions
AESC Bowling Green, LLC
Brown & Brown Insurance
Kelley Construction, Inc.
Murphy Construction Group

REALTOR Association of Southern Kentucky, Inc.
Rough Country Equipment
Service One Credit Union
South Central Bank

Tri-Arrows Aluminum, Inc.
Tyson Foods, Inc.
Wehr Constructors, Inc.

Bronze Star

Abound Credit Union
ALPLA, Inc.
American Bank & Trust Company, Inc.
Arnold Consulting Engineering Services, Inc.
AT&T Kentucky
Ball Corporation
Berry Global (BGKY)
Blue Moon Port A Pot & Sanitation
Boyd CAT
Brandeis Machinery
Cannon Automotive Solutions
Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC
Charles M. Moore Insurance
Cleary Construction
Coldwell Banker-Legacy Group
Crye*Leike Executive Realty
Facilities Management Services, pbc
Faith Technologies, Inc.
Farmers Bank & Trust

Fifth Third Bank
FirstBank
Forvis Mazars, LLP
General Motors Bowling Green Assembly Plant
Holland, Inc.
Houchens Insurance Group
Kentucky 811
Key Oil Company
Kobelco Aluminum Automotive Products, LLC
M & L Electrical, Inc.
Messer Construction Company
NCTC
Neal Turner Realty
Nova Steel USA, Inc.
Omni Custom Meats, Inc.
Peoples Bank
Performance FoodService
Platinum Development LLC
PNC Bank
Pye-Barker Fire & Safety
Regina Webb Salon & Spa
Shade & Screen Solutions
Shaker JCB

Southern Coil Solutions
Stewart-Richey Construction, Inc.
Stryker Logistics
Stupp Brothers, Inc.
STV Inc.
T.J. Regional Health
TAZ Logistics
Tennessee Valley Authority
The Boldt Company
The Law Firm of Flora Templeton Stuart, PSC
The Mint Gaming Hall at Kentucky Downs
Three Springs Hospitality Management, LLC
Warren Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation
Wendy's of Bowling Green, Inc.
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