



Greater Wichita
Partnership

Partners In Progress

The effectiveness of the Greater Wichita Partnership is in each member, each investor, each community and business leader serving this region. We invite you to connect with any of the area professionals serving on boards, committees, and within the many alliances and task forces. Our strength is in our diversity and united efforts for success.

Executive Board Of The Greater Wichita Partnership

Exists to ensure the work of the organization aligns with the mission to fast-forward economic growth in the Greater Wichita region.

Learn more about becoming an investor of the Partnership by contacting Heather Denker at heather@greaterwichtapartnership.org.

Executive Board

Charlie Chandler, INTRUST Bank, Executive Board Co-chair
Jon Rolph, Thrive Restaurant Group, Executive Board Co-chair
Matt Michaelis, Emprise Bank, Executive Board Vice Chair
Gary Schmitt, INTRUST Bank, Executive Board Treasurer
Paul Allen, Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, LC, Executive Board Secretary
Jeff Fluhr, Greater Wichita Partnership, President

Ex-Officio Members

Alan Banta, Trans Pacific Oil, Downtown Wichita Board Chair
Trish Brasted, NetWork Kansas, Accelerate Wichita Co-chair
Stephanie Harder, Textron Aviation, Business & Education Alliance Co-chair
Ben Hutton, Hutton, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce Board Chair
Chairman Pete Meitzner, Sedgwick County
Dr. Richard Muma, Wichita State University
Mark Torline, Wichita State University, Accelerate Wichita Co-chair
Dr. Sheree Utash, WSU Tech, Business & Education Alliance Co-chair
Mayor Dr. Brandon Whipple, City of Wichita

At-Large Members

Matt All, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas
Aaron Bastian, Fidelity Bank
Chuck Caisley, Evergy
Ramin Cherifat, McCownGordon
Lathi de Silva, Signal Theory
Ron Draper, Textron Aviation
Tom Gentile, Spirit AeroSystems
Chris Graham, Koch Industries, Inc.
Derrick Nielsen, High Touch Technologies, Inc.
Gary Oborny, Occidental Management
Gary Plummer, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
Shelly Prichard, Wichita Community Foundation



Greater Wichita
Partnership

Scott Schwindaman, Onyx-3
Brian Sikes, Cargill

Strategic Advisory Team

Comprised of private-sector leaders and public-sector officials, this team assists in guiding economic development strategies, goals, and opportunities within the Partnership's jobs priority. In addition, the team provides critical leadership to propel the initiatives identified within the Regional Growth Plan.

Members:

David Alfaro, Butler County
Paul Allen, Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, LC
Kevin Arnel, Foulston Siefkin
Ebony Clemons-Ajibolade, Evergy
Jeff Fluhr, Greater Wichita Partnership
Grant Glasgow, NAI Martens
Ben Hutton, Hutton/Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce Chair
Linda Jolly, El Dorado, Inc.
Mike King, Hutton
Todd Knight, McCownGordon
Keith Lawing, Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas
Bob Layton, City of Wichita
Colin Marsh, Murfin Inc.
Chairman Pete Meitzner, Sedgwick County
Bill Murphy, Kansas Department of Commerce
Gary Plummer, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
Dan Reisig, UV&S
Scot Rigby, City of Wichita
Andrew Schlapp, Wichita State University
Gary Schmitt, INTRUST Bank
Tom Stolz, Sedgwick County
Beth Shelton, Harvey County Economic Development Council
Brent Shelton, Sedgwick County
Joe Surmeier, PEC
Debra Teufel, Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce
Brice Turner, Hornet Cutting Systems
Mayor Dr. Brandon Whipple, City of Wichita

Accelerate Wichita

To support the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem, the Partnership provides support to Accelerate Wichita (formerly the Entrepreneurship Task Force), a group focused on identifying, activating and mentoring an entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Driven by Co-chairs Trish Brasted of Wichita Technology Corp. and Mark Torline of Wichita State University, Accelerate Wichita has a vision to build and support an inclusive, globally competitive, and impactful entrepreneurial ecosystem creating sustainable long-term growth for the Wichita region through job and wealth creation.

A key accomplishment of the Entrepreneurship Task Force (ETF) was the launch of the first entrepreneurial accelerator in



Greater Wichita
Partnership

Kansas – e2e, now named NXTUS. In 2015, ETF launched a planning committee that took the necessary steps to open the independent entity. NXTUS works closely with Accelerate Wichita to cultivate the entrepreneurial ecosystem by activating, accelerating, and mentoring entrepreneurs in the heartland.

Talent Advisory Committee

Comprised of Human Resource Executives and community leaders, this committee is regularly convened to provide strategic direction for current and future talent recruitment and retention efforts. In addition, this committee works to propel the initiatives identified within the Talent Marketing Blueprint.

Members:

Laura Breese, Spirit AeroSystems
Alejo Cabral, W – A Community of Young Professionals
Nici Duncan, High Touch Technologies, Inc.
Laura Fischer, Hutton
Kara Franks, Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, LC
Melissa Knoeber, Fidelity Bank
Jonathan Long, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
Marilou Mewborn, Ascension Via Christi
Phet Namphengsone, Textron Aviation
Whitney Proctor, McCownGordon
Rene White, INTRUST Bank

For specific questions related to the Talent Advisory Committee, or to get on the mailing list, please contact Anne-Marie Coughlin, vice president of talent at annemarie@greaterwichtapartnership.org.

Business & Education Alliance (BEA)

Focused on promoting a seamless partnership between private business and education leaders to inspire, develop, and produce the productive workforce needed for sustained economic growth for our region. The BEA is guided by the Student Success Task Force Plan, which identifies three priority areas based on the initiatives outlined in the Lifelong Learning Action Plan of the Project Wichita Community Report. The BEA is currently led by Co-chairs Stephanie Harder, Director of Communications and Public Affairs at Textron Aviation, and Dr. Sheree Utash, President of WSU Tech.

Organizations Involved:



- 184th Intelligence Wing
- Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, LC
- Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty
- Berry Companies
- Bothner and Bradley
- Boy Scouts of America
- Building Controls and Services
- Butler Community College
- Capitol Federal Savings Bank
- Center City Academy
- Child Start
- Cowley College
- Cox Machine, Inc.
- Credit Union of America
- Delta Dental of Kansas
- Emprise Bank
- Envision
- Exploration Place
- Fidelity Bank
- Flagship Kansas
- Friends University
- Goodwill Industries of Kansas
- HM Dunn
- Hutchinson Community College
- Hutton
- IMA
- INTRUST Bank



- Junior Achievement
- Kansas Reading Roadmap
- Kansas State Board of Education
- Koch Industries, Inc.
- KU Endowment
- KVC Hospitals
- McCownGordon
- Meritrust Credit Union
- Pando Initiative
- Project Teacher
- Realtors of South Central Kansas
- Regents Tech Authority
- Sedgwick County
- Senator Moran's Office
- Signal Theory
- SJCF Architecture
- Southwestern College
- Spirit AeroSystems
- Tabor College
- Textron Aviation
- The Arnold Group
- The Independent School
- United Way of the Plains
- USD 259 Wichita
- USD 260 Derby
- USD 261 Haysville
- USD 265 Goddard
- USD 266 Maize
- USD 267 Renwick
- USD 385 Andover
- Weigand Real Estate
- Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Wichita Community Foundation



Greater Wichita
Partnership

- Wichita State University
- Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas
- WSU Barton School of Business
- WSU College of Applied Studies
- WSU Tech
- Youth Entrepreneurs



Greater Wichita
Partnership

Meetings are held 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month at the Greater Wichita Partnership offices at 505 E. Douglas Avenue, Wichita, KS 67202. For specific questions related to BEA, or to get on the mailing list, please contact Anne-Marie Coughlin at annemarie@greaterwichitapartnership.org.

For specific questions related to Accelerate Wichita, or to get on the mailing list, please contact Evan Rosell at evan@greaterwichitapartnership.org.