

# Promoting Business Growth & Jobs in Blue Springs!

The Blue Springs Economic Development Corporation (EDC) exists to promote business development and investment, lead to the creation of jobs, and support economic development in the City of Blue Springs, Missouri.

We partner with the City of Blue Springs, the Blue Springs Chamber of Commerce, the Blue Springs School District, the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District, and the business community. The EDC also proactively provides assistance to companies and individuals seeking to open, locate or expand their business in Blue Springs.

The EDC is funded by "Investing Partners" who believe in Blue Springs! Our Investors contribute to programs and initiatives that further development and investment in Blue Springs. And, they are invited to attend investor meetings and receive up-to-date news and information regarding growth and development throughout the City.



## HOW WE SERVE BLUE SPRINGS

The Blue Springs EDC is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization that is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors, consisting of the following representation:

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 6 - City of Blue Springs       | 1 - Blue Springs Chamber of Commerce                |
| 6 - Nominated by Membership    | 1 - Blue Springs School District                    |
| 1 - Past Chairman of the Board | 1 - Central Jackson County Fire Protection District |

Funds are allocated to promote business growth and development in Blue Springs, to market Blue Springs locally, regionally and nationally as a "Community of Choice," and to the operations of the organization. Below are the expense categories for the Blue Springs EDC:

### Business Support & Growth:

- Business Retention & Expansion
- Project Development
- Business Development
- Marketing & Advertising

### Operations:

- Membership Events & Meetings
- Organizational Development & Meetings
- Contract Services
- Facilities & Equipment
- Supplies, Fees & Misc. Operations

### Personnel:

- Salaries & Wages

### Did you know?

*Blue Springs EDC's oversight and governance includes its Board of Directors, the Executive Committee (Officers), an annual audit, legal counsel, and an accountant. Monthly financial reports are provided to the City of Blue Springs & City Council.*

*Questions? Please contact us at (816) 228-0208*

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Missouri Innovation Park:** Initiation & development of a new science and technology park with the University of Missouri as the anchor tenant, focused on supporting the local creation and hiring of higher wage/benefits jobs.
- **Adams Dairy Parkway:** Assisted with the development of the new Adams Dairy Landing retail center containing Target & Gordman's, Kohls, Michael's, Staples & Lowes opening soon. Also assisted with the development of the Coronado Place retail center containing Texas Roadhouse, Panera, Taco Bell, Sonic and Adams Dairy Bank.
- **Highway 7:** Assisted with development & redevelopment of retail businesses, including Mall at Fall Creek (Culver's, Mirror Image Car Wash, Side Pockets), Copperleaf Village, Village Gardens, and other recent activity along the corridor.
- **Downtown:** Surveyed over 100 businesses seeking their input and discovered their business growth needs. Assisting with future downtown redevelopment efforts.
- **40 Highway:** Assisted with redevelopment of the former Walmart building and planned redevelopment of the old K-Mart.

## MEET THE STAFF:

The Staff of the Blue Springs EDC is passionate about the growth and development needs of our community!



*Sher Lopez, Brien Starnier, Ann Judd*

### Brien Starnier, President:

Hired in April 2005 after serving as the Economic Development director in Overland Park, KS and having worked in economic development for over 20 years, Brien provides a strong vision and a focused passion for the goals and strategic objectives for the organization.

**Sher Lopez, Business & Investor Relations Manager:** Hired in April 1999 by the City of Blue Springs, Sher provides over 11 years of local government and business experience. Sher is a certified Business Retention and Expansion professional who assists our local businesses and our Investing Partners.

**Ann Judd, Communications and Operations Manager:** Hired in March 2007, Ann provides over 20 years of non-profit organization experience and corporate administrative experience. Ann provides management and support of the communications, marketing, and overall operations of the organization.



*Want to know more about an exciting development that is designed to bring more jobs and economic growth to Blue Springs?*

*For more information, go to:*  
[www.MissouriInnovationPark.com](http://www.MissouriInnovationPark.com)