



greaterhutch
AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP FOR RENO COUNTY

elevate

RENO COUNTY

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**Elevate Reno County Economic Development
Strategic Plan Implementation**

The Elevate Reno County Strategic Plan Implementation Group continues to meet monthly to dive into the implementation recommendations and 5 strategic pillars that make up the plan:

- High wage jobs and quality investment
- Robust talent pipeline
- Flourishing entrepreneurship ecosystem
- Modern sites and infrastructure
- Vibrant quality of life

Greater Hutch in partnership with the Hutchinson Community Foundation were awarded a [Community & Economic Development Grant](#) in March in the amount of \$150,000 over 5 years. These funds are dedicated to support the public communications and perception strategy to improve community confidence, strengthen attachment, and increase local economic growth.

Local Business Expansions



PrairieLand Partners Training Facility Expansion



MidKansas Seamless Guttering before and after, new location on 4th

Investment Announcements

Business retention and expansion efforts have supported over \$18 Million in investments and creation of over 200 new jobs in 2026. Regular business visits help coordinate access to valuable resources to grow workforce, investment, and space to support existing business growth.

Announced Investment in 2026

- SDI/ MAPS (Sales Data Inc./ Mid America Point of Sale)- \$2 Million investment, 50 new jobs [read full press release](#)
- Mid Kansas Seamless Guttering- \$790,000 investment, 14 new jobs, new facility on 4th street
- National Modular- 50 new jobs, new Hutchison location in KEIP Spec building [read full press release](#)
- Hutchinson Salt Company- \$8 Million investment, 13 new jobs
- PrairieLand Partners- \$6 Million investment, training facility
- Superior Boiler- 100 new jobs, new products line
- Wichita Tractor- \$1.5 Million investment including new facility, 4 new jobs
- **Total Investment announced: \$18.3 Million**
- **Total new jobs announced: 231**

To schedule a Business Retention and Expansion visit to connect with expansion assistance for your business, please contact Lauren Storm at laurens@hutchchamber.com



National Modular Mfg Coming Soon

National Modular MFG LLC Signs Lease with Salt City Investments in Kansas Enterprise Industrial Park

National Modular MFG LLC, with operations in Haven, Kansas, and Providence, North Carolina, has signed a long-term lease to double the size of its Kansas operations. The expansion includes a 57,600-square-foot facility located in the Kansas Enterprise Industrial Park (KEIP) in Hutchinson.

National Modular manufactures modular units for national brands such as 7 Brew Coffee. According to the company, its modular facilities deliver “the strength and quality of traditional stick-built construction with the added benefits of transportability and efficiency.” The additional space will significantly increase manufacturing capacity to support the company’s continued growth.

[Read full press release here](#)

Workforce Development

Upcoming Workforce Events

- [April 15th- Workforce Round Table sponsored by JAG-K](#)
 - 11:45am-1:00pm, Chamber Office
- **May 6th- Career Quest Public Services Day**

- May 12th- Signing Day
 - 9am, Stringer Fine Arts Center



Workforce Roundtable

The Workforce Roundtable Series offers a bi-monthly opportunity for employers to connect with workforce- relevant resources and engage in enlightening conversation. This month, student and facilitator presenters from JAG-K, Jobs for America's Graduates-Kansas will share an overview of the program, presentations from students, and participate in resume review and mock interviews.

Lunch is graciously sponsored by JAG-K.

JAG-K is a 501(c)3 non-profit that partners with public schools to offer an elective class that provides academic and other positive supports to ensure students earn

their diploma. By exploring career opportunities and practicing soft skills, students are prepared to successfully transition to post-secondary education, military service, or into the workforce following their graduation. Their mission is to help prepare students for successful futures by partnering with students to help them identify a career path compatible to their interests and skills and overcome the various challenges they face that put them at risk of not attaining educational and career success.

[Register Here](#)

2026 SIGNING DAY

Signing Day

We are excited to announce our 2026 Signing Day will be held on May 12th, 2026, at Stringer Fine Arts with the program beginning at 9 am.

Just as we value athletes who commit to play a college sport, the signing day ceremony is designed to honor students who are entering a technical field and emphasize the importance of their career choice. On the day of the event, high school students, parents, instructors, administration, counselors, industry partners, potential employers, local government officials and the local media will celebrate as students join their peers to commit to their future technical program pathway of choice.

A career fair is hosted after the program to connect students with job shadow, internship and networking opportunities with employers in their chosen pathways with a focus on healthcare, construction, automotive, machining, welding and more.

Reasons to Sponsor or Attend:

- Engage with Future employees
- Recognize the future workforce pipeline
- Support education and business connections

Network Sponsorship is limited- Register to host a booth to connect with students below!

[Register Here](#)

Career Quest Healthcare Day Shows Students that their Future is Bright



"Look at (each career) as if you could really do it" encouraged Benjamin Anderson, CEO of Hutchinson Regional Medical Center to 6th grade students before they embarked on tours of 3 prominent healthcare facilities in Reno County. Career Quest Healthcare Day on April 8th connected over 300 Reno County 6th grade students with careers available at the Hutchinson Regional Medical Center, Hutchinson Clinic, and for the first time Prairie Star Health Center, all of whom graciously sponsored Career Quest this year. All 3 major local

employers demonstrated to students that healthcare careers are not only available in medical professions such as nursing, surgical, medical and dental but also in IT, plant operations, marketing and more.

Thank you to our healthcare sponsors and thank you to our dedicated school systems who all partner to create opportunities for career exploration for our future workforce!



Reno County Welcomes 6 new Households through MakeMyMove



Reno County has officially welcomed 6 new households through the MakeMyMove program! A total of 12 adults and 1 child from Arizona, Missouri, North Carolina, Nebraska and Oklahoma now call Reno County home. "Hutchinson's incentive package was one of the reasons for us choosing Hutchinson, instead of some of the larger surrounding cities, because of the benefits that came with it" said movers Micah and Sarah (pictured above). These benefits include community-connecting incentives like passes to prime local attractions including the Cosmosphere, Strataca, Carey Park Golf Course and Salt City Splash, featuring local vendors with the Metro Monthly Drink punch card and Foodie Passport. Each mover also now receives a \$5,000 relocation grant made possible by the Home in the Heartland grant through the Kansas Department of Treasury. Micah is now working for Siemens Gamesa and he and Sarah are enjoying life as Hutchinson residents.

[Hutchinson made MakeMyMove news](#) in their February feature of our remote work mover, Sarah Monje who is now loving living with her husband in South Hutchinson. After realizing "if we can work remote, why are we still here (Oklahoma City)?" they are now enjoying a slower, more peaceful pace of life that allows for space, real lunch breaks for more walking, and connection to community.

In addition to Sarah as a remote worker, the program has connected 5 local employers in healthcare, management, business and finance, architecture and engineering with talent to fill their open positions. These movers create an annual economic impact of \$530,200 with an annual tax contribution of \$72,500. Learn more about the [MakeMyMove](#) program and [contact us](#) with any questions!



Pictured above are movers Amy Bricker and Krista Bush

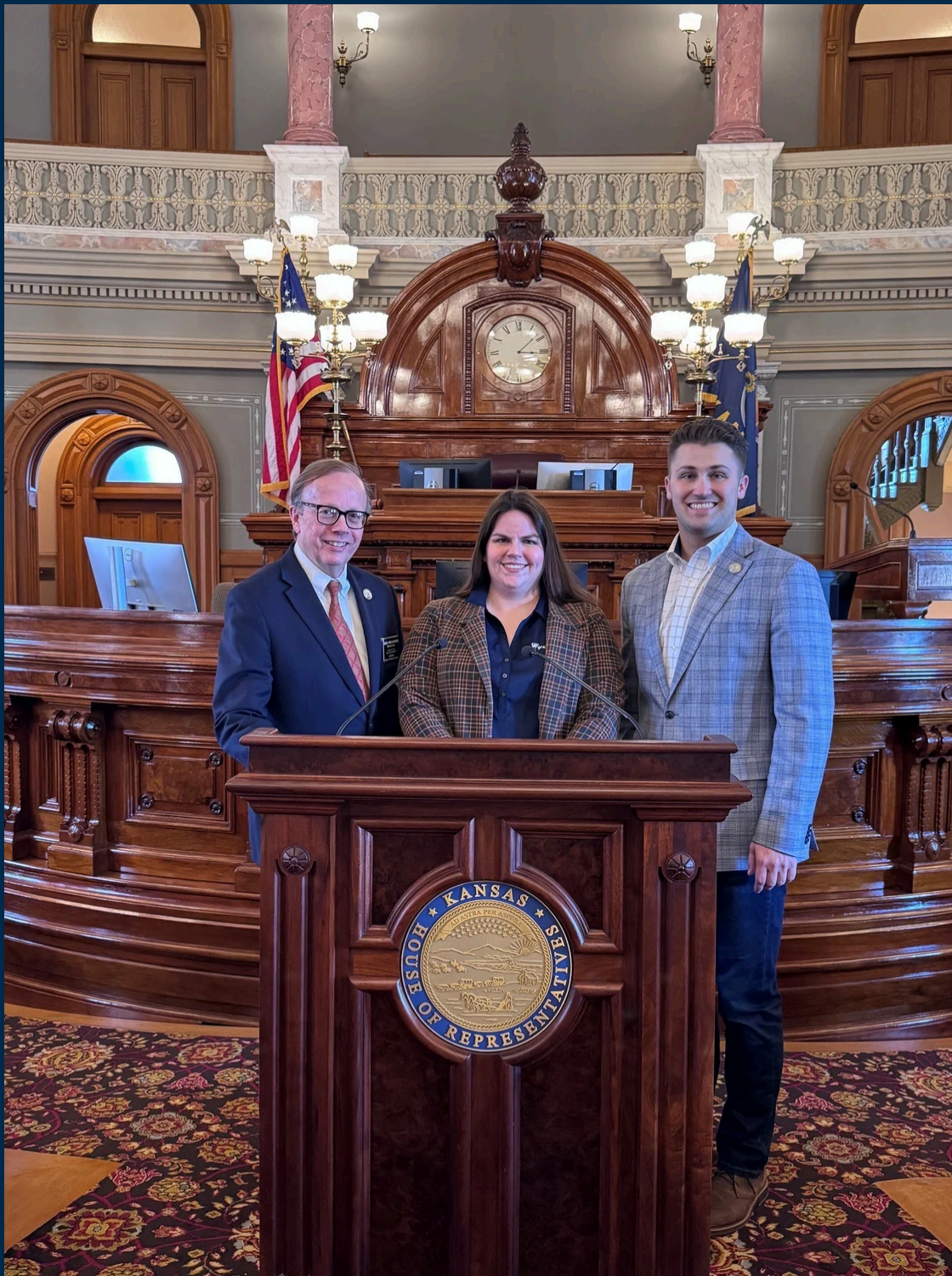
Partnership Fuels Career Connections at the HutchCC Career Connections Job Fair



Thursday April 2nd Hutchinson Community College hosted their widely attended Career Connections job fair. Over 120 employers and community workforce organizations were in attendance to interact with students and job seekers. KansasWorks and Greater Hutch joined forces to host a booth together to connect both job seekers and employers present with resources for their workforce. This event is always scheduled for the first Thursday of April.



Community Capacity Building



HB2596 Signed into Law by Governor Kelly — A Win for Hutchinson Housing

Kansas HB2596 has been signed by Governor Kelly and is officially moving forward. After months of advocacy, testimony, and legislative momentum.

The bill establishes a five-year pilot program at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility, creating a pathway to address our local housing shortage through a nationally accredited construction certification program.

Representative Paul Waggoner, representative Kyler Sweely and Debra Teufel introduced HB2596 on January 29, and on February 13, Debra Teufel delivered testimony on behalf of the Hutchinson/ Reno County Chamber delegation followed by Clint Nelson with Interfaith Housing before the House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development. The bill passed out of committee with amendments on February 18 and cleared the full House floor the very next day.

The bill was introduced in the Senate on February 25 and referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce on February 26. On March 11, a second round of testimony was delivered before the Senate committee, with Katy Fallon providing the Hutch Chamber testimony and Clint Nelson providing a second testimony filled with compelling data and context around the pilot process. The bill passed out of committee with amendments on March 18, and on March 19 cleared the full Senate floor 36–4 with one additional amendment.

It entered Conference Committee on March 23, where the pilot period was extended from three years to five, and on March 26 passed both chambers — 36–3 in the Senate and 111–10 in the House, two overwhelmingly positive supportive votes.

A special thank you to Representative Sweely for writing and introducing HB2596, and to both Representative Sweely and Representative Paul Wagoner for championing the bill and working tirelessly with their colleagues to see it across the finish line.

The pilot program represents one promising piece of a larger housing solution for Hutchinson and Reno County. We are proud to share that on April 9, 2026, Governor Kelly signed HB2596 into law, officially approving this pilot program. What began as an idea to connect workforce development with our community's housing shortage is now moving forward — and Hutchinson is at the center of it. We look forward to seeing this pilot come to life and to continuing to work alongside our partners to build a stronger, more resilient community.

Area Team Kansas Members Welcome Lt. Governor Toland to Wichita Region



Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Commerce David Toland shared Kansas' big wins including strong job and economic growth, top -ranked business climate and why attracting talent and investing in quality of place will keep the state thriving. Pictured above left to right: Lauren Clary with Kansas Gas, Debra Teufel with Hutch Chamber, Ebony Clemens with Evergy, Lt. Governor David Toland, Beth Shelton with Harvey County Economic Development, Andrew Nave with Greater Wichita Partnership, Sarah Hoefgen with El Dorado Inc Economic Development.

Greater Hutch at the Table: Exploring the Future of AI Infrastructure in the Heartland

To kickstart April, Greater Hutch joined a roundtable convening hosted by the Bipartisan Policy Center and graciously hosted at Lathrop GPM in Downtown Kansas City, bringing together 26 participants from across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to examine the rapid growth of AI and data center infrastructure — and what it means for communities like ours.

The conversation centered on where data centers are being built, how they are powered, and how energy and environmental impacts are weighed at the local and regional level through different thematic considerations: Costs, Communication/Education, Environmental, Process, Land, Economic Development,

Essential Services, Innovation/Tech and Infrastructure. Held under Chatham House Rules, the gathering created space for candid dialogue across sectors and perspectives, with participants including Meta, JPMorgan Chase, the University of Missouri's Columbia and Kansas City campuses, Kansas and Missouri Farm Bureaus, Wyandotte Economic Development Council, the City of De Soto, Port KC, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and others from across the Heartland.

AI-driven data center development is moving fast, and the decisions being made right now will have lasting implications for local economies, energy grids, and communities. Greater Hutch is actively educating itself on this landscape — because understanding where these conversations are headed is the first step in making sure Hutchinson and Reno County are positioned to benefit.

Trends in Data Center Development Event Provides Current Resources and Education

Wednesday, March 11 at 11:00 AM at the Stringer Fine Arts Center (600 E 11th Ave, Hutchinson) Greater Hutch and the Hutch Chamber hosted the **Trends in Data Center Development event**. Presentations and engaging panel discussion moderated by Hutch Chamber President and CEO Debra Teufel on the future of digital infrastructure in our region were provided by Jason Klindt, St. Director of External Affairs for Evergy, Paul Hughes, Headquarters & Megaprojects Business Development for Kansas Department of Commerce, Sergii Gerasymovych Founder of Ramiform AI, Don Whitman President and CEO of Superior Boiler LLC, Dwayne Corcoran VP of Operations and Co-Founder Cormor, Inc. Their discussion explored the economic impact of data centers, emerging technologies, infrastructure considerations, and opportunities for local businesses. [Watch the full recording of the event here.](#)

Thank you to our Top-Tier Reno Rising Investors



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