

April 2026

Newsletter



Ohio Tax Credit Authority Appointment



Cameron Garczyk, Executive Director of GROW Licking County, has been appointed to the Ohio Tax Credit Authority by Ohio House Speaker Matt Huffman for a four-year term. The Ohio Tax Credit Authority is a five-member independent board composed of taxation and economic development professionals from across the state. It is responsible for reviewing and approving applications for state tax credit assistance and overseeing the performance of approved projects in coordination with the Ohio Department of Development.

GROW Welcomes New Data Intern



We're pleased to welcome Ms. Lal Sezgin as our new data intern! Lal is a junior at Denison University pursuing a double major in Data Analytics and Economics and is a native of Istanbul, Turkey. She will support our team with data analysis and research to help inform our development efforts.

Lal brings experience in data visualization, predictive modeling, and dashboard development. She will also assist in utilizing regional, state, and federal datasets, along with our internal software platforms. Lal's internship will extend through the end of June.

Manufacturing Career Ambassador Program



The **Manufacturing Career Ambassador Program** gives your team the tools and training to connect directly with local students and educators—without having to build a program from scratch.

- Ready-to-use classroom presentations & activities
- Structured toolkits for school engagement
- Training to help your team effectively tell your story
- Alignment with Ohio's manufacturing career pathways

Whether you're already engaged with schools or just getting started, this program makes it easy to showcase modern manufacturing careers and build your talent pipeline right here in Licking County.

[Learn More](#)

Panel Presentations



Executive Director Cameron Garczyk recently participated in two panel discussions focused on key issues impacting Licking County. He spoke at the United Way Housing and Homelessness Event, where he shared insights on the county's population growth, ongoing economic and industrial development, and the increasing need for housing.

Garczyk also participated in an economic development panel for the 2026 Leadership Ohio class at Denison University during their opening session held in Licking County. Leadership Ohio is the state's premier leadership development organization.

April Investor Spotlight



City of Johnstown

Johnstown, Ohio is a historic community in northwestern Licking County with roots in the early 1800s as part of the U.S. Military Tract. Established in 1813 by Dr. Oliver Bigelow, the village grew steadily through the 19th century, supported by agriculture and later accelerated by the arrival of the railroad and other infrastructure. Throughout the 20th century, Johnstown modernized with utilities, schools, and industry, including the establishment of Technical Rubber Company (now Tech International).

The community also produced notable leaders, including two U.S. Congressmen from the Ashbrook family. Since the 1970s, Johnstown has experienced continued residential and commercial growth, increasingly connected to the Columbus Region. New housing developments, local businesses, and population shifts—largely from the Columbus metro—have transformed the community from an agriculture-based economy into a growing residential hub. Today, Johnstown balances its small-town character with ongoing growth, playing an important role in Licking County’s evolving economic landscape with its proximity to the New Albany International Business Park.

Major companies include:

- Pharmavite LLC – nutritional supplement manufacturing
- Tech International – global leader in tire repair and rubber products
- Kansai Helios - global powder coatings & chemical company (new addition in 2025)

[City of Johnstown Website](#)

[View Our Current Investors!](#)

If you are interested in becoming an investor of GROW Licking County or want to learn more, contact Cameron Garczyk at Cameron@growlickingcounty.org.

Business Engagement Visits



Our team kicked off Q1 of 2026 with several business engagement visits. These visits give us an opportunity to learn more about their operations, understand any opportunities or challenges they are facing, and explore ways we can better support their continued success in Licking County.

Our goal is to listen, connect resources when helpful, and strengthen our partnership with local employers. We joined Village of Hebron officials for several visits with their

companies. We also had representatives from our partners at the Licking County Chamber, Ohio Means Jobs Licking County, and One Columbus.

1st Quarter Business Visits:

- Atkore
- THK Manufacturing
- Gealan Windows
- Lear Corporation
- MPW Industrial Services
- Harry & David
- Fastenal
- Hendrickson Axle

Kaiser Aluminum Celebrates 80th Anniversary



For eight decades, Kaiser Aluminum has been a cornerstone of innovation in advanced manufacturing, producing high-quality aluminum products that support critical industries including aerospace, automotive, packaging, and defense. Here in Licking County, Kaiser Aluminum's continued presence reflects not only a proud legacy of manufacturing excellence, but also a strong commitment to our workforce, community, and regional economy. State Representative Kevin Miller recently presented a House commendation to celebrate the milestone!

Englefield Oil Celebrates 65th Anniversary



Englefield Oil Company, headquartered in Heath, is a fuel distribution and convenience retail company founded in 1961. It operates over 100 Duchess convenience stores, supplies fuel and lubricants, and serves commercial and fleet customers across Ohio and surrounding states. With over 1,500 employees and significant regional reach, it's a major locally headquartered company and key player in Licking County's economy. Now led by the third generation, Englefield Oil represents the strength of family-owned businesses that help drive Licking County's economy.

Harvey Solar Project Update



Leeward Renewable Energy recently completed their acquisition of the 350 MW Harvey Solar Project in Hartford and Bennington Townships. Strategically sited near growing electricity demand, Harvey Solar will help strengthen grid reliability, improve infrastructure efficiency, and deliver power where it is needed most.

The project will:

- Create more than 300 construction jobs
- Prioritize local and in-state workforce participation
- Deliver approximately \$125 million in long-term local economic benefit, supporting schools and public services (\$3 million annually)

Harvey Solar reflects a commitment to responsible development, strong local partnerships, and delivering reliable, cost-effective energy with lasting community value.

[Learn More](#)

Check out our available buildings and sites!

The GROW Licking County team provides site selection services to professional consultants and business executives considering expanding or relocating to Licking County communities.



[View Properties](#)

Did You Know?

Licking County is helping power one of the fastest-growing regional economies in the state. Over the past decade, the Columbus Region's Gross Regional Product (GRP) grew 59.8%, outpacing Ohio's statewide growth of 48.2%—and Licking County is leading that momentum!

Licking County: +89.4% growth (highest among 11 central Ohio counties)

Pickaway County: +80.3%

Delaware County: +77%

Investors & Partners

Platinum Investors



Gold Investors



Silver Investors

- OhioMeansJobs Licking County
- Licking County Chamber of Commerce
- Village of Granville
- MedBen
- Huntington National Bank
- TruCore Federal Credit Union
- C-TEC
- Denison University
- Shai Hess Commercial Real Estate
- Southgate Corporation

Bronze Investors

- Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce
- Granville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Buckeye Lake Region Corp
- Power Connect
- Terracon
- Verdantas
- ADR
- American Structurepoint
- Bricker Graydon Wyatt
- Legat Architects
- Wilson, Shannon & Snow
- Reese Pyle Meyer PLL
- Monroe Township
- Union Township
- Granville Township
- Matesich Distributing Co
- MPW
- North Valley Bank
- AEP Ohio
- OPUS
- Project Architecture LTD. Project Construction
- Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP



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