

2005 Annual Report Building Foundations



Exceeding Expectations

- Establishing Operations
- Business Development
- Community Assistance
- Research and Leadership Development

BUILT TO SERVE

**THE CORPORATION'S BY-LAWS DEFINE
ITS FUNCTIONS AND THE ROLE OF
MEMBERS IN GUIDING ITS PROGRESS.**

The Economic Development Corporation will:

- ◆ maintain current data and analysis of county economic and social trends
- ◆ develop and maintain an inventory of available business and industrial sites
- ◆ package business and industry recruitment materials
- ◆ recruit businesses and residents
- ◆ apply for and administer grants (when requested by communities)
- ◆ raise funds from existing businesses, communities, industry and individuals to support community and economic development efforts
- ◆ support countywide tourism efforts
- ◆ involve members in developing annual program of work and drafting a four-year strategic plan
- ◆ engage in other activities, as deemed appropriate by the board of directors, to implement the annual program of work and 4-year strategic plan



PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE CLOCK TO SEE A TIMELINE OF THE CORPORATION'S PROGRESS SINCE THE CCI PROGRAM THAT LED TO ITS INCEPTION IN 2004.

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2003	
JUNE	-Montgomery County Applies to IL Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to be a Competitive Communities Initiative (CCI)
NOVEMBER	-Accepted as CCI
2004	
JUNE	-CCI Meeting with Area Lenders to Seek Input on Forming an Economic Development Group -CCI Data Sharing with Business and Community Leaders
JULY	-CCI Proposal in Draft Form -15 County Commits to Corporation -20 Extension Council Commits to Cost-Sharing Funds and Overhead for CED Educator
AUGUST to DECEMBER	-Raymond is First Municipal Member -Living joins -Correen joins -Schram City joins -Hillsboro joins -Nokomis joins -Wagoner joins -WIT joins -Farmersville joins -Butler joins -Donnellson joins -Ohlman joins -Fillmore joins -Coalton joins -Harva joins -Taylor Springs joins -Litchfield joins
OCTOBER	-File Charter with Secretary of State -Extension Staff Search Begins
NOVEMBER	-Montgomery County Farm Bureau joins
DECEMBER	-First Bank of Raymond joins -Bank of America joins

Corporation Leadership

MCEDC Board of Directors

Member Type	Member Name	Representative	MCEDC Leadership Position
County	Montgomery County Board	Mike Plunkett	Vice Chairman, Communications Committee Chairman
	Montgomery County Extension	Nick Kuhns	Treasurer
Municipal	City of Farmersville	Jim Allen	resigned 11/05
	City of Hillsboro	Dennis Fenton	Business and Population Retention Task Force, Chairman
	Village of Irving	Scott Snow	Golf Tournament, Chairman
	City of Litchfield	Bill Dees	Community & Economic Development Committee Chairman; Workforce Preparation Task Force, Chairman
	Village of Raymond	Emily Battin	Secretary, Technology Task Force Chairman, Website Mistress
Business and Industry	Hillsboro Area Hospital	Liz Huber	Membership & Fundraising Committee Chair
	Journal Publications	John Galer	
	Montgomery County Farm Bureau	Randy Singler	
Individual	Heather Hampton+Knodle, Fillmore		Chairman, Entrepreneurship Task Force Chairman

Membership Roster

County

Montgomery Co. Board
Montgomery Co. Extension

Municipal Members

City of Coffeen
City of Hillsboro
City of Litchfield
City of Nokomis
City of Witt
Village of Butler
Village of Coalton
Village of Donnellson
Village of Farmersville
Village of Fillmore
Village of Harvel (Assoc.)
Village of Irving
Village of Ohlman
Village of Raymond
Village of Schram City
Village of Taylor Springs
Village of Waggoner

Business and Industry

Bank of America
Carpenter's Local Union 725
CNB Hillsboro
First National Bank of Raymond
Hillsboro Area Hospital
Journal Publications
Montgomery County Farm Bureau
Miller Enterprises (Assoc.)
Colt Coal Co, LLC
Borgic Farms, Inc. (Assoc.)
Aumann Auctions, Inc.
Hurst-Rosche Engineers, Inc.
Pritchard & Osborne, LLC (Assoc.)
First Community Bank of Hillsboro (Assoc.)
Security National Bank (Assoc.)

Individual

Heather Hampton+Knodle



Chairman's Report—Trail Blazing



There's nothing quite like setting out on a journey to a new destination. Frankly, other than my family and God, I can't think of anything I love more than the discovery and challenges that come with meeting people of different cultures, learning about where they come from first hand, and finding solutions to shared concerns.

The first year of the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation has required a lot of trail blazing. The following pages document our progress along the path to developing a brighter future for Montgomery County.

I feel blessed to have such interesting and capable travel companions for this adventure. It is wonderful to serve the Corporation's members with a mix of directors that have such diverse professional backgrounds and life experiences. In this first year, the board members have developed camaraderie. The personalities on the board let us get to the matters at hand, while we allow enough humor to keep our perspective and respect for each other *and* this unifying organization.

We are doubly blessed to have Amanda Cole in the role of Community and Economic Development Educator for Montgomery County. Her abilities, work ethic and knowledge continue to amaze me. (Thank you again *and again* to UI Extension, the Montgomery County Board and our Municipal members for making her staff position a reality!) Amanda is a team player who carries the interests of the entire county close to her heart and at the top of her mind.

The vision, time, persistence and follow through of this group of people working with numerous volunteers who've provided input through the Small Business Planning Committee, the Workforce Preparation Task Force, the Community Calendar of Events planning committee, and other initiatives have led us farther along our expedition than we could have hoped for one year ago.

This annual report marks a point where we can all pull off to rest and to review the benchmarks we've crossed to date. When you finish reading it, please put the report in your backpack and join us for the second leg of our journey. Full speed ahead!

Heather Hampton+Knodle
Chairman

A Note from the CED Educator



I've enjoyed my work with Extension and the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation in the last year. With regards to the Corporation, my work has focused on three goals of economic development.

Business Retention & Development – working to keep current businesses in Montgomery County in business. The way to accomplish this is through opportunities for education of management and employees to reduce costs, increase profit margins, and to inform them of outside resources that are available for expansion and development.

Business Recruitment – working to bring new businesses to Montgomery County. The way to accomplish this is by increasing the database (Location One: LOIS) of opportunities that currently exist within Montgomery County, getting the information out, and then working to prepare a package of incentives used to bring new businesses into the County.

Entrepreneurship – working to grow businesses within Montgomery County by citizens that already live within the County. The way to accomplish this is by educating citizens of opportunities and resources that are available to bring their dreams to reality, and by helping to create an environment that supports the entrepreneurship spirit.

I look forward to another year of pursuing these goals.

Sincerely,
Amanda Cole, Educator
Montgomery County Community and Economic Development
UI Extension



MARCH	-29, MCEDC members attend U of I Extension planning meeting for Small Business Owners Seminar for late Spring 2005
	-31, U of I Extension, CED Newsletter
APRIL	-6, Chairman & Staff presented update to Economic Development Committee, Montgomery County Board
	-12, Chairman & Staff presented update to full Montgomery County Board
	-18, Directors, MCEDC, Meeting
	-18, Workforce Preparation Taskforce Meeting
	-26, Membership & Fundraising Committee
	-29, Springfield Day
	-30, 49 th Senate District Economic Development Taskforce meeting



OPERATIONS

Community and Economic Development Educator Hired

In early January, UI Extension unit and regional staff and a small group of Corporation Charter members served on an interview committee to recommend a candidate to UI Extension campus administration. Within a few days, the campus and regional office approved of the interview committee's recommendation.

United at the First Annual Meeting

More than 20 members and their representatives participated in the first annual meeting of the Corporation on January 31, 2005. Members approved changes to the by-laws related to the number of Municipal members that could serve on the board. Members elected 11 directors. The acting Chairman introduced Amanda Cole, in her first day on the job as the UI Extension Community and Economic Development Educator with whom the Corporation board would work. An organizational board meeting was held immediately after to elect officers and to set a board meeting date.

Up and Running with Standing Committees

The board convened its first meeting on Valentine's Day, 2005. Directors immediately set to work establishing and serving on standing committees of Communications; Community and Economic Development; and Membership and Fundraising. Initially, each committee met once each month. After the committees established some objectives and responsibilities, they scheduled meetings as needed or on a bi-monthly schedule.

Established Policy and Procedures

Officers worked to prepare a draft policy and procedure manual for directors to review. A working document was in place by July. The Board has added policies related to conflict of interest, event promotion, community grant writing assistance, and contractual project work as well as other language. Copies are available to members by speaking with the Corporation Secretary.

Maintaining Member Connections at Semi-Annual Meeting

Members participated in informational breakout sessions at the Semi-Annual Membership meeting held in August. Guest speakers included Bill Cornman of Litchfield speaking about business recruitment and site development; County Coordinator Chris Daniels speaking about the Enterprise Zone; Hillsboro Mayor Bill Baran and Village of Raymond Trustee Emily Battin speaking on community clean up; and Jason Walker with the Illinois Coalition for Community Action speaking about organizing community-based improvement efforts. Members provided their top priorities and reviewed the Corporation's revised budget.

Going the Distance – Golf Tournament

The Corporation hosted a four-person, best ball golf outing at the Shoal Creek Golf Course in August. The generosity of sponsors and the registration fees of the 10 teams contributed to funds for leadership development of volunteers in Montgomery County.





BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Hosts Small Business Seminar

The Corporation worked with UI Extension, the City of Litchfield, chambers of commerce in Hillsboro, Litchfield and Nokomis, Lincoln Land Community College, and Ill. Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Opportunity Returns to co-host a Small Business Seminar in May. The seminar featured two tracks – one for people interested in starting their own business and the second for existing businesses to learn what resources are available to them.

Getting Advice from a Small Business Committee

Some participants in the Small Business Seminar volunteered to serve on a small business committee to review evaluation forms and plan programs to assist businesses in the county. The committee first met in July.

Networking During a Free Trial Period - Brown Bag Luncheons

The Small Business Committee identified networking and access to resource people as critical components to small business success. They recommended offering topical information at different locations in the county once each month for a trial period. The trial sessions included topics such as computer technology and troubleshooting; enticing holiday shoppers to retail stores; and business planning and finance. UI Extension, the City of Litchfield and the Corporation promoted the luncheons. Extension and City of Litchfield provided lunch for participants.

Skill Building with Customer Service Training

The Corporation contracted two presenters from UI Extension to present a one-day seminar about the keys to successful customer service. Topics included: defining customer service, understand customers and their expectations, losing customers and keeping customers, demonstrating good customer service, and verbal and nonverbal communication.

Managing Contacts and Prospects

The chart below lists the number and monthly average of contacts in each of the categories listed since the CED Educator's start date (January 31, 2005), and what Economic Development goal (see Amanda Cole's message) those contacts help the county to achieve.



JUNE

- 8. Statewide Leadership Conference *7-Year litch*
- 9. Workforce Preparation Taskforce
- 20. Directors Meeting
- 23. Communications Committee
- 23. Directors meet with Senator Demuzio
- 30. Membership & Fundraising Committee
- 30. U of I Extension, CED Newsletter
- 30. Help Butler & Fillmore apply for Bright Ideas Grant



MORE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Responding to Site Proposals

The Corporation's efforts to complete the Location One Information System training and listing session and our efforts to establish two-way communication with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity have resulted in some requests for site proposals from industries looking to locate in Illinois. The CED Educator has worked diligently to respond to these leads – sometimes with only a 24-hour deadline.

Preparing Our Workforce for a Competitive Future

All four school districts are represented by superintendents, principals, and educators on a Workforce Preparation Task Force convened by the Corporation on a quarterly basis. Representatives of businesses and of public agencies including health, workforce preparation, and law enforcement also participate on the Task Force. Invitees to the first meeting held in March 2005 were asked what they viewed as the top three factors impacting student performance. The response was: student home life, student work ethic and student knowledge of career opportunities were major contributors to positive or negative student performance. Discussions have centered on meeting employers' needs through relevant technical training and opportunities to retain young people in the county. The Task Force conducted a survey of high school students late in 2005. Survey results will be one factor guiding actions in 2006.



Creating Wealth Through the Homeownership Initiative

In November, the Corporation co-sponsored an informational meeting on a Homeownership Initiative coordinated through the statewide group, Rural Partners. Following the informational meeting, the board voted to encourage the County Board to apply for the state-funded bond so that communities in the county could participate in the program. The Corporation has since sponsored informational meetings for lenders, communities and contractors on the Initiative.

Promoting Commercial Sites on Location One Information System

This web-based database coordinated through the State of Illinois allows us to list commercial site information and community profile information for professional site selectors who represent industry and business to review as they narrow down prospective locations. The Corporation hosted an informational session for realtors in the county. The Corporation can list any available commercial site – whether owned by an individual or governmental body, represented by a realtor in the county, or owned by a business or other entity – on this database.



JULY

-14, Hosted information meeting about Location One Information Systems (LOIS)
-14, MCEDC members attend U of I Extension planning meeting for Small Business Owners events for Fall 2005/Spring 2006
-20, MCEDC members attend Senator Demuzio's Economic Development Taskforce for Montgomery County
-25, Directors, MCEDC, Meeting
-25, Membership & Fundraising Committee, MCEDC, Meeting

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE



Identifying Grant Writers

Board members of the Corporation identified a short list of people who had been successful at securing grants for various projects in the county. Each person was sent a letter asking if they would be willing to write grants related to community and economic development and if they would complete a background information sheet on their availability and area of expertise. The table of grant writers was shared with communities at the semi-annual meeting.

Climbing the "Available Grants" Learning Curve

In our first year of operation, we've learned there are many grants out there and that the deadlines can be very tight. That makes it all the more important to have data gathered on each of our communities in advance of beginning an application process. The Corporation has asked each municipal member and the county to provide a list of their top three priorities. These lists help us target our questions to governmental agencies and to be on the look out for grants through businesses and foundations. Currently, the Corporation receives information on available grants through the Illinois Lieutenant Governor's office, various state and federal agency contacts, and individual board members' affiliations with their own professional peer groups.



EPA Brownfield Meeting

The Corporation responded to several member communities' concerns about how to clean up former commercial sites in their towns by inviting the program manager for Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's grants and revolving loans related to cleanup of brownfields and leaking underground storage tanks. He spoke to interested communities and individuals in May at Nokomis City Hall.

Raymond Secures EPA Grants

The Village of Raymond sent three council members to the Corporation's EPA Brownfield Meeting in May. As a result, the Village secured more than \$100,000 in two separate grants to clean up a commercial site in preparation for another prospective business to locate.

Surveying Citizens to Guide Priorities

Between the months of April and July, the Corporation gathered input through written surveys in several communities. The responses from the surveys were generally consistent with input received at town hall meetings that had been held by the Competitive Communities Initiative that preceded the Corporation. Economic development and community development were the reigning themes. In cases where a number of respondents had comments on a specific community, that subset of results was shared with the community's elected officials for their reference.

"Take 1" on the First Ever Countywide Tourism Brochure

The Corporation produced a tourism brochure to feature some of our county's attractions and events that the State of Illinois approved as "tourism" events. Several volunteers provided input to what elements should be included in the brochure. The brochures were delivered in the first quarter of 2006 to designated tourist information points within a 75-mile radius of Montgomery County. The brochures were also circulated within the county and adjacent counties to increase awareness of some of our highlights. The Corporation appreciates the support of advertisers who helped make the Tourism and Calendar of Events brochures an affordable project.



AUGUST
-2. Community & Economic Development Committee
-10. Directors, MCEDC, Meeting
-10. MCEDC Semi-Annual Members Meeting
-8-12. Staff attended CDI Training (Midwest Community Development Institute)
-13. 1st Annual Golf Outing/Fundraiser, Raymond
- Corporation officially Welcomes New Members
Aumann Auctions
Borgic Farms
Coll Coal Co. LLC
Hurst-Rosche Engineers
Miller Enterprises

MORE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE



Responding to Individual Community Requests

For *Schram City*, we learned of their need to make the restroom in the town hall accessible for people with handicaps. We immediately put feelers out to the county clerk for polling place ADA funds, to the Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Illinois Attorney General and federal grant assistance websites. Although we were not able to secure any funds to date, we continue to monitor information to identify programs that would help Schram City meet its goal.

For *Butler and Fillmore* it was preparing applications to the Ameren-IP Bright Ideas grant program. Butler is seeking new recreational equipment for the Village Park. Fillmore is seeking assistance in renovating its Community Center. We did not receive grant monies in 2005.

For *Coffeen*, we received notice that they needed funds to aid in the emergency demolition of the old water tower. We immediately contacted the Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity regarding their emergency funds program (that we learned about while participating in the Corporation's "Springfield Day" in late April). Agency officials agreed to review a one-page summary of the project, prior to Coffeen representatives spending time and resources to complete the full application, to determine if it would be eligible for emergency funds. Coffeen was able to fund the project through other means.

For *Nokomis*, we obtained information on tourism-related programs and put them in contact with resource people at the state level that could help them secure resources to promote their upcoming sesquicentennial celebration.

For *Litchfield*, we drafted a letter of support to the Illinois Department of Public Aid for the Brookstone Estates Supportive Living Facility. Our letter represented area-wide support that was a pre-requisite for the certification needed to proceed with locating the facility in our county.

For *Ohlman*, we have provided some information about community cleanup options and how other communities have obtained reimbursements for mowing lots owned by absentee property owners. We made it a priority to schedule presenters and time for discussion at the Semi-Annual Member Meeting on August 10th to focus on community clean up and improvement options.

Taking a First Cut at a Countywide Community Calendar of Events

This effort marks the first attempt at trying to list the numerous community activities that enrich the quality of life in the area in a one-page reference piece. Working in conjunction with the "Journal-News" newspaper, the Corporation published a list of community events in December to encourage people to add their group's event to the list. Input from county residents led to the creation of a Community Calendar of Events insert in the Tourism Brochure.





COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations to Member Investors

As part of our accountability, the Corporation board members and staff have made several presentations at various points throughout 2005 to the following people: the full Montgomery County Board, the county board economic development committee, staff reports to the UI Extension Council, and staff attendance and reports at municipal council meetings.



Montgomery County Launches Website

One of the Corporation's first steps was to reserve the domain name of www.montgomerycountyillinois.org. Volunteer Emily Battin designed website and has maintained it throughout 2005. It has been a great start to increasing the presence of Montgomery County on the Internet.

Regular Features in the CED Newsletter

Although the UI Extension Community and Economic Development program is distinct and independent from the Corporation, the Corporation has benefited from frontpage placement of a story in each quarterly edition of the CED Newsletter. The newsletter is distributed to more than 350 people throughout the county.

Chairman's Newsletter

The Corporation Chairman has penned several newsletters on an "as needed" basis to member investors as a way to keep members current on opportunities that could benefit them and to share information that could improve their services or efficiency.



Multi-Media Contact

The Communications Committee and CED Educator wrote and distributed several news releases announcing programs and events offered by the Corporation to the seven media outlets in the county. Directors and staff participated in several interviews and forum discussions with WSMI radio journalists and personalities. Member needs were discussed on-on-one through phone, e-mail, letters and in-person throughout the year.

Presentations on Request

Corporation directors and staff presented program information and progress reports at several venues, including the Montgomery County Board and County Economic Development Committee meetings; municipal council meetings; Extension Council meetings; chamber of commerce meetings in Hillsboro, Litchfield and Nokomis; Rotary Clubs in Hillsboro and Litchfield, and the Nokomis Lion's Club.



OCTOBER

- 5, Staff presented Fact Sheet to Economic Development Committee, Montgomery County Board
- 8, Staff attendee meeting on FutureGen
- 14, U of I Extension, Poverty Simulation
- 15, MCEDC members attend 49th District, Senator Demuzio's Economic Development Summit
- 17, Officers, MCEDC, Meeting
- 25, Calendar of Events, MCEDC, Meeting
- 26, Customer Service Training
- 27, Co-Hosted, Brown Bag Lunch, "How to Capture the Holiday Shopper"



RESEARCH AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Discovering Opportunities at the IL Rural Development Conference

Four representatives of the Corporation including Emily Battin, Amanda Cole, Chris Daniels, and Heather Hampton+Knodle participated in this two-day event that drew several hundred attendees from across the Midwest. Topics ranged from government grants and programs to improving rural internet and to commercial site development criteria and marketing.

“The Seven Year Itch...” Extension Leadership Conference

Corporation directors Liz Huber, Emily Battin and Heather Hampton+Knodle as well as Amanda Cole and Susan Griffin of Lincoln Land Community College participated in this one-day leadership and community development seminar that featured skillbuilding breakout sessions on interpersonal communications, grassroots organizing and fundraising, and leading change.

Establishing Our Baseline Condition – Citing Extension Economic Analysis

UI Extension regional business specialist Patrick Curry completed a data search and analysis of Montgomery County’s social and economic status. The data has been useful for referencing our current labor, income and housing situation. Corporation directors anticipate using the information in coming grant applications and programs.



Striking Gold – Existing Business Data Set

Late in 2005, the Corporation acquired one data set of more than 1600 businesses operating in Montgomery County. The directors intend to use the dataset for business retention and expansion efforts and to market Corporation programs and services aimed at assisting small businesses.

Introduction to One Regional Approach – The 49th Senate District Task Force

Montgomery County was represented by Corporation members John Galer, Bill Dees, Bill Baran, Chris Daniels, Heather Hampton+Knodle and staff Amanda Cole at two meetings of the 49th Senate District Task Force held in Carlinville. Participants provided input into a blueprint for economic development for the district. Participants also met agency representatives from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and other agencies and industry that offered programs or services related to economic development.

Expanding Our Resource Network Through Professional Affiliations

The Corporation voted to join Rural Partners at its November board meeting. Rural Partners is a statewide nonprofit organization that serves as a think tank on critical rural development issues such as healthcare and telecommunications. It also secures resources through state and federal agencies to package programs, such as the Homeownership Initiative, in which members can participate.



NOVEMBER

- 10, U of I Extension Tel-net “Changing Face of Illinois”
- 21, Directors Meeting
- 21, Community & Economic Development
- 29, Co-Hosted, Montgomery County Homeownership Forum
- 30, U of I Extension, Government Officials Workshop, LLC, Litchfield
- Welcome Security National Bank and First Community Bank of Hillsboro

DECEMBER

- 7, Staff and others presented Rural Partners Homeownership Program to Economic Development Committee, Montgomery County Board
- 8, Presentation to Nokomis Lion’s Club by Chairman
- 19, Staff meet with partners to begin grant application for Montgomery County Homeownership Program
- 19, Staff meet with partners to begin grant application for Montgomery County Homeownership Program

Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation

Unaudited FY05 End-of-Year Financial Report

INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE	% ACT. IN-COME	% RECEIVED
MUNICIPAL	\$ 20,235	\$21,258.50	\$ (1,023.50)	36.9%	105.1%
COUNTY	\$ 15,000	\$15,000.00	\$ -	26.0%	100.0%
BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	\$ 18,375	\$16,000.00	\$ 2,375.00	27.8%	87.1%
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP	\$ 1,500	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	0.9%	33.3%
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	\$ 700	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00	0.9%	71.4%
SPECIAL EVENTS	\$ 2,000	\$4,048.00	\$ (2,048.00)	7.0%	202.4%
DONATIONS	\$ 2,500	\$ 350.00	\$ 2,150.00	0.6%	14.0%
GRANTS				0.0%	0.0%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 60,310.00	\$57,656.50	\$ 2,653.50	100.0%	95.6%
EXPENSE	BUDGET	USED	REMAINING	% ACT. EX-PENSE	% USED
STAFF					
STAFF U OF I EXTENSION	\$ 30,000	\$30,000.00	\$ -	89.5%	100.0%
CONTRACTUAL WORK (grant writing)	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000.00	0.0%	0.0%
GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE (bank fees, corporation fees)	\$ 1,000	\$ 71.37	\$ 928.63	0.2%	7.1%
STAFF / BOARD OF DIRECTORS					
MEETING / EDUCATION (registrations)	\$ 500	\$ 320.44	\$ 179.56	1.0%	64.1%
MEMBERSHIP DUES / SUBSCRIPTIONS (IL Econ. Dev Assn)	\$ 1,000	\$ 200.00	\$ 800.00	0.6%	20.0%
MEMBERSHIP / COMMUNICATIONS					
COMMUNICATIONS / MARKETING (newsletters, web page, brochures)	\$ 2,500	\$ 239.40	\$ 2,260.60	0.7%	20.0%
SPECIAL EVENTS (golf outing)	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,130.24	\$ (1,130.24)	6.4%	213.0%
ECONOMIC / COMMUNITY DEV.					
DATA COLLECTION (surveys, maps)	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000.00	0.0%	0.0%
WORKSHOPS (education, training)	\$ 1,000	\$ 543.16	\$ 456.84	1.6%	54.3%
BUSINESS / INDUSTRY NEEDS (sight inventory, needs assessment)	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000.00	0.0%	0.0%
RESIDENTIAL NEEDS (sight inventory, needs assessment)	\$ 1,500		\$ 1,500.00	0.0%	0.0%
TOURISM (calendar of events)	\$ 500		\$ 500.00	0.0%	0.0%
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS	\$ 500		\$ 500.00	0.0%	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 51,500.00	\$33,504.61	\$ 17,995.39	100%	65.1%
SURPLUS	\$8,810.00	\$24,151.89			

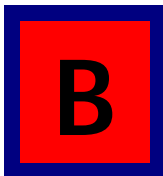


THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.
WE PLAN TO MAKE EVERY MINUTE COUNT IN 2006.



BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

The Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit membership organization that exists to improve the economic conditions in Montgomery County. The principles that guide our operations follow:



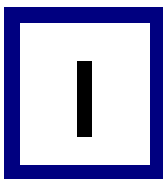
BRIGHTER FUTURE

By investing our own dollars and volunteer time in making the Corporation a reality, we have committed to shaping a brighter economic future for Montgomery County. We will actively seek to understand problems and opportunities, and implement solutions where possible.



UNITY

This is the first effort to develop and to implement a *countywide* plan to reverse the negative local trends. As part of this effort, the Corporation staff and board will work with the county board, communities, businesses, industry, schools, churches, individuals, and other groups.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Improving infrastructure is a high priority for the Corporation. Components such as wireless phone access, high-speed Internet access, and reliable water supplies need to be expanded to support this century's business opportunities and residential demands. A growing economy also affords more tax dollars for maintaining and enhancing existing road, sewer, police protection, emergency services, legal, and utility infrastructure.



LEADERSHIP

This Corporation will serve as the "one-stop-shop" for prospective business and industry operators. An active and diverse board of directors — elected by their peers to serve on the board — will govern the Corporation. Professional staff and rotating term limits for directors will ensure continuity between generations and local leaders.



DEVELOPMENT

The Corporation will guide the continual process of development. In the short-term, it will play matchmaker between available workforce and sites, and prospects. Meanwhile, local governments can focus on policies that encourage growth. Over time, the Corporation's work will improve the quality of key features that businesses and residents seek in a location.

**MONTGOMERY
COUNTY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation

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