

ATTRACT.
EXPAND.
GROW.

The REDI collaboration works to attract, expand and grow businesses that provide quality, sustainable jobs in Columbia and Boone County, Missouri. REDI brings together the City of Columbia, Boone County, the University of Missouri and other educational institutions, regional and state economic development agencies, and the private sector to attract new businesses, retain and expand existing businesses, and foster a strong entrepreneurial ecosystem for business start-ups and emerging technologies. REDI's goal is to promote positive economic growth in Boone County while maintaining our exceptional quality of life.



Regional Economic Development Inc.

IEDC ACCREDITED

REDI Highlights

Aurora Organic Dairy

In April 2019, Aurora Organic Dairy held a ribbon cutting to signal that production is underway at its newly constructed \$106 million fluid milk processing facility in Columbia. Aurora purchased the Missouri Certified Sutter Industrial Site in Columbia for a plant that initially created 100 jobs. A planned expansion will bring an additional \$50 million investment and create 50 additional jobs. REDI facilitated the project from proposal through site visits and selection, as well as the Chapter 100 Revenue Bonds incentive process.

American Outdoor Brands

American Outdoor Brands has completed its \$55 million national distribution center announced in Boone County, and is currently hiring to fill 150 newly created jobs. REDI facilitated the site selection and Chapter 100 Revenue Bonds incentive process.

Northwest Medical Isotopes, LLC

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a construction permit for NWMI's Radioisotope Production Facility that will be constructed and operated at the University of Missouri Discovery Ridge Research Park. Originally announced in 2014, the facility will produce molybdenum-99, which is used in medical scans for cancer, heart disease, and bone and kidney disease. REDI worked with NWMI in 2018 to secure Chapter 100 Revenue Bonds for this new construction that will create 104 new jobs.

Kraft Heinz Modernization

Kraft Heinz is in the third year of its Chapter 100 Revenue Bonds program to finance a \$100 million expansion and modernization of its Columbia Foods plant, retaining 350 local employees. REDI worked with Kraft Heinz to secure the bonds and to retain the plant and its jobs for the Columbia community.

REDI Supports Small Scale Manufacturing

REDI is working alongside the Business Loop Community Improvement District to identify and support local small-scale manufacturing along the Business Loop Corridor. This project is supported by a grant from Smart Growth America with funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Small-scale manufacturers produce tangible goods, usually have between one and thirty employees, and focus on both retail sales and wholesale distribution. The goal is to revitalize this working-class neighborhood with new, locally-owned manufacturers.

Principles of Community

The REDI Board adopted the Principles of Community diversity/inclusion resolution in 2018 as part of REDI's continuing efforts to grow and foster diversity and inclusion within the REDI organization.

Workforce Initiatives

Graduates of the Moberly Area Community College (MACC) Mechatronics program continue to be hired by 3M, JM Eagle, Kraft Foods and other area employers. In 2014, REDI worked with MACC and local employers to help create the Mechatronics program that trains students to work in automated manufacturing. REDI continues to work with area employers and local educational institutions to promote a well-trained workforce.

Certified Site Status

In April 2019, Hinshaw East was designated as a Missouri Certified Site, the fourth certified site in Boone County and the 32nd certified site in the state. Certification of a site includes comprehensive review of items including the availability of utilities, site access, environmental concerns, land use conformance, and potential site development costs.

Site Tours for Legacy Companies

REDI coordinates tours of major area businesses for the City Manager, City Council representatives, County Commissioners, and other community leaders. These existing business visits provide the opportunity to learn about employment and investment in the community by these businesses, and increases communication with community leadership.

City of Columbia Strategic Plan Economy Team

REDI staff serves as co-chairs for the Economy priority of the City's Strategic Plan 2016-2019, providing leadership to the team in establishing goals, indicators and metrics to ensure the creation of quality jobs that pay a living wage.

REDI Marketing

REDI staff create and maintain marketing and promotional materials for REDI, including its website, social media presence, publications, radio and print ads to promote REDI's services and showcase Columbia and Boone County as an excellent location for businesses and entrepreneurs.

REDI Innovation Hub

REDI's Innovation Hub is a co-working space that offers business counseling, training sessions, classes and programs to local entrepreneurs. REDI's Entrepreneurship Coordinator continually develops new programming for the Hub, which is currently home to 20+ entrepreneurs advancing their startups and business concepts.

CEO Roundtable Certification

REDI's Entrepreneurship Coordinator Collin Bunch has been certified as a PeerSpectives™ Roundtable System facilitator, a program of the Edward Lowe Foundation. Facilitators lead 8-12 second-stage company leaders through an experience that improves leadership skills, sharpens decision making abilities and builds lasting relationships with peers.

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

In support of the region's burgeoning entrepreneurial ecosystem, REDI staff coordinates entrepreneurial activities and events, such as Game Jam weekends and hackathons. Additionally, REDI staff collaborates with the region's other entrepreneurial resources, providing leadership and coordination of several initiatives, including hosting the Entrepreneurial Master Calendar.

IEDC Accreditation

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) has recognized REDI as an Accredited Economic Development Organization (AEDO). REDI is one of only 62 organizations to earn AEDO status worldwide.



Regional Economic Development Inc.

IEDC ACCREDITED

ColumbiaREDI.com

573-442-8303 | 500 East Walnut Street, Suite 102 | Columbia, MO 65201