ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM ADVANCES LEAD GENERATION THROUGH STRATEGIC EVENTS

By Emily Barnwell

As part of the Partnership's commitment to growing the region's economy, the strategic priority of Jobs is continuing to build valuable relationships, generate new project leads and champion the region's strengths on a national and global stage.

In 2025, the economic development team has already exhibited or engaged at more than a dozen trade shows. Throughout the summer and fall, the team is participating in additional targeted trade shows, site consultant engagements and industry-specific conferences. These opportunities allow the Partnership to connect directly with decision-makers, promote the Wichita region's competitive advantages and build the pipeline of future investments.

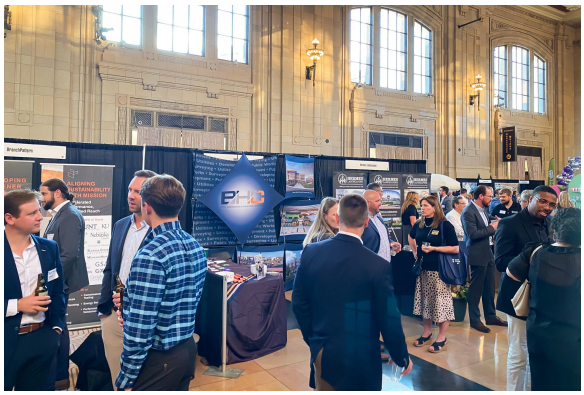
Recent and Upcoming Engagements

SEDC Annual Conference (August): This gathering of more than 700 economic development professionals is North America's largest regional economic development event, offering insights into best practices and networking opportunities to support regional growth.

Midwest U.S. Japan Association Conference (September): A unique opportunity to foster international investment, this conference connects Midwest leaders with Japanese businesses and government officials. Partnership representatives will also conduct a site visit while in Tokyo.

FABTECH (September): As North American's largest event for metal forming, fabricating, welding and finishing, FABTECH is a valuable opportunity to explore new technologies and connect with industry leaders.

SIOR Development Day (September): Joined by El Dorado, Inc. and Go McPherson, the Partnership will connect with commercial brokers, industrial and multifamily developers and investors at the largest gathering of real estate and development in Kansas and Missouri.



U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Aerospace Summit (September): The premier space and aviation event brings together government leaders and industry experts from across the world to discuss the latest developments, trends, challenges and opportunities in aviation, space and defense.

NBAA BACE (October): Recognized as the world's largest business aviation event, NBAA BACE offers a powerful platform to promote Wichita's robust aviation ecosystem.

Industrial Asset Management Council (IAMC) Fall Forum (October): This forum provides a unique venue to connect with corporate real estate decision-makers and explore trends in industrial site selection.

Click here to view a recap of trade shows and events from the first half of 2025.