

# BRADLEY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## WHAT IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ?

It has been asked “What is Economic Development?” The truth is it can mean different things to different people. A simple definition of Economic Development is the business attraction, industrial growth/retention and job creation within a community.

Local economic development’s role in business attraction requires the acquisition of industrial use land for future industries, job training programs to supply a qualified workforce, entrepreneurial development and incentive packages.

A new industry will not locate in or even consider an area that can not provide their required space and infrastructure. Many industries today require 10’s, 100’s or even 1000’s of acres. This acreage must contain water, sewer, electricity, gas, and fiber optics. This is why the installation of the water and sewer lines around the By-Pass is important. Location is also primary. An industry wants access to interstates, rail and water transportation if possible. The completion of I-69 and I-530 will make Bradley County more attractive to prospective industry. A company’s trucking cost are significantly lower on interstates. It is equally important that we work as a region to accomplish a connected rail system that is

completed to ports on the navigable rivers as well as the Port of New Orleans.

Job training programs benefits industry retention as well as industry attraction. It is important that SEAC-BEC and BCEDC work with local employers to create the job training that is needed in our area as well as innovative training.

Entrepreneurial development—start ups of small businesses is one of the best and most reliable and cost-efficient forms of economic development. An entrepreneur risks his or her own money and hard work to make the business successful. BCEDC’s goal is to offer the training and information that increases the likelihood of success. BCEDC offers FREE business consulting by the UAM-ASBTD center. The business consultant helps existing small business owners as well as those in the planning stages. They offer assistance in development of business plans, marketing, traffic counts, loan applications, etc. Small businesses create 2/3’s of all jobs in the U.S. BCEDC wants to provide the necessary support and tools to help small business succeed.

Lastly, incentive packages are crucial to attracting new businesses. Competition is fierce among cities trying to land new industry and new

jobs for their communities. Companies are going to locate where they get the best incentive package. It is important for a community to have an incentive plan. The State of Arkansas’ incentives are based on the number of jobs and the pay rate a company will provide. The more jobs and higher pay offered the more tax and financial advantages that may be offered. Local incentive can be based on the same criteria. This is where the Mayor, City Council, County Officials and BCEDC must work together to present a comprehensive incentive package when needed. Warren’s Economic Development Tax provides Warren with the ability to offer attractive incentive packages. This allows Warren to compete in the fierce competition for new industry.

Economic Development is important to any size city but is more challenging to smaller towns because of available resources; size of property, infrastructure, qualified labor, and incentives. Warren and Bradley County are aware of these needs and continually works toward improvement, therefore, improving our opportunities for business recruitment.

### **ENTREPRENEURS**

Schedule your appoint with the business consultant today. Call 870-226-3760.

## HOW CAN BCEDC HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES?

BCEDC can help your business in such areas as:

- Land and building acquisitions
- Financial packaging
- Demographic and economic data
- Incentive packaging
- Workforce training
- Plant expansions
- Entrepreneurial and small business development

### BCEDC Is affiliated with:

- Southeast Arkansas Cornerstone Coalition
- Southeast Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority
- Arkansas Heavy Equipment Training Program
- TEAMUP/WAGE-Southeast Arkansas Community Based
- Arkansas Small Business and Technology Dev. Ctr. @UAM
- Bradley County Chamber of Commerce

January 2014 Jobs Update			JOB OPENINGS AT:
Bradley Co. Employers	# Emp.	Vacancies	
AR Superior Federal CU	13	0	<b>Bradley Co. Medical Center:</b> For information on job openings and to apply go online to – <a href="http://www.bradleycountymedicalcenter.com/jobs">www.bradleycountymedicalcenter.com/jobs</a> <b>City of Hermitage:</b> Has an opening for full-time Police Officer (Night Shift). To apply call 870-463-2209 or mail resume to the City of Hermitage, P. O. Box 120, Hermitage AR 71647. <b>Hermitage School District:</b> Has one opening for a High School Secretary. Application must be completed at the school. For additional information call 870-463-2246. <b>O.K. Foods:</b> Has an opening for a part-time (at least 32 hr.) Driver. For additional information call 870-463-2834 <b>Potlatch Corporation:</b> Has an opening for a Process Control Tech. For qualifications and to apply, please log on to <a href="http://www.potlatchcorp.com">www.potlatchcorp.com</a> under the careers section. Potlatch is an EEO/AA employer. <b>SE AR Human Development Ctr.:</b> Has 15 openings for Residential Care Assistants. For additional information call 870-226-6774.
Armstrong Flooring	275	0	
Ashcraft Wood Products	15	0	
Bradley Brand Furniture	5	3+	
Bradley County	69	0	
Bradley Co. Medical Ctr.	216	7	
Chapel Woods Health & Rehab	unavailable		
City of Hermitage	6	1	
City of Warren	52	2	
First State Bank of Warren	33	0	
Fulghum Fibers	10	0	
Hermitage Schools	93	1	
New Beginnings, CASA	10	0	
Oasis Trading	41	0	
OK Foods	11	1	
Ouachita Hardwood	37	0*	
Potlatch	160	1	
SE AR Human Dev. Ctr.	270	15	
Super Valu Foods	52	1**	
The Mad Butcher	59	0***	
Townsend Flooring	20	0*	
Union Bank	7	1	
Warren Bank & Trust	42	0	
Warren School Dist.	286	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1782</b>	<b>33</b>	*Taking Applications **Applications on Thursday ***Applications on Mondays, 1-4 pm

## HOW CAN BCEDC HELP

### BCEDC Mission Statement

To enhance and sustain the economic climate of Bradley County by increasing the employment opportunities for the residents of the county

## BCEDC

110 N. Myrtle St.  
Warren, AR 71671

Phone: 870-226-3760

Fax: 870-226-3770  
websites:

[www.bcedcar.com](http://www.bcedcar.com)  
[arkansassiteselection.com](http://arkansassiteselection.com)  
 E-mail:  
[bradleycountyidc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bradleycountyidc@sbcglobal.net)  
 net

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### INDUSTRY IN BRADLEY COUNTY

In 2014 the BCEDC Newsletter will contain a series of articles on the different industries in Bradley County.

We all know of the larger manufacturing companies; Armstrong & Potlatch. But, as you can see from the jobs listing above that many jobs are held by companies other than manufacturing. Which, could be classified as industries.

Bradley County Medical Center, SE AR Human Development, Chapel Woods Health & Rehab, the many doctors offices and the medical equipment companies all make up

a Health Care Industry and creates many jobs.

The Tomato Farming Industry is a long established industry in Bradley County.

The Timber/Logging Industry is an industry that has long sustained Bradley County.

The General Farming Industry is growing in Bradley County and continues to employ many.

The Financial Industry is larger in Warren than one might think. Consider the 3 banks, credit union and accountants. These provide an opportunity for careers in the financial field.

The Retail Industry is one

that many may feel is lacking in Warren. We do need more. But, we have more than you may think. Retail is not just Main Street. Retail spreads for the Farmers Co-Op to Mad Butcher and Walgreen's to everywhere in-between. The Chamber of Commerce, BCEDC and community groups are working together to grow the Retail Industry in Warren.

In the coming months the BCEDC Newsletter will delve into these and other industries. Our goal is to highlight the industry and their contributions to the community. As well as the training and job opportunities available to the citizens.

### MOLLY'S

**Every Monday at 7:00 am**

This public forum meeting encourages the discussion of topics important to Bradley County residents. BCEDC wants to hear what's happening with Bradley County businesses and how we can assist.

**Please make the time to meet Mondays at 7:00 am.**