



N K Y ANNUAL 23

NORTHERN KENTUCKY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

REPORT 24





First National Bank

KENTUCKY



Trusted with all of your business needs since 1881.

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859-320-6434
2001 Dixie Highway
Ft. Wright, KY

Florence Branch

859-320-6435
8545 US-42
Florence, KY

Warsaw Branch

859-567-2345
300 West Main St.
Warsaw, KY



**Member
FDIC**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

I am excited to share with you our 2023/2024 Annual Report, highlighting the NKY Chamber's accomplishments over the past 12 months.

This past year, the NKY Chamber celebrated a major milestone: 55 years of strengthening and advancing the Northern Kentucky region's business community and economy.

Throughout the year, hearing from you, our members, has been extremely valuable. Our board, our more than 1,100 member volunteers, all of you - your advice and counsel, your care and commitment - are what help us continue to live out our mission to promote and support the development of strong businesses and a vibrant economy in the Northern Kentucky region, through leadership and advocacy, resulting in a better quality of life for all.

This year, our membership grew 10%, bringing us to just under 1,750 members, 85% of which are small businesses. Once again, we saw increased membership from minority-owned, women-owned and veteran-owned businesses, and new partnerships that led to increased engagement throughout the region.

This year, we partnered with Anthem to offer ChamberAdvantage, a health coverage solution providing small businesses an easy, affordable way to offer health benefits to employees. One of our members reported saving over \$10,000 this year alone! In addition to savings on health insurance, your NKY Chamber offers a variety of other programs that save our members money on everything from office supplies and marketing to training solutions and HR services.

We worked closely with policymakers at local, regional, and national levels and spent countless hours in Frankfort championing issues important to moving the region's economy forward. We executed more than 100 programs and events focused on the areas you told us were important: advocacy, professional development, leadership, talent attraction and retention, networking, and more.

We were also proud to celebrate the accomplishments of both businesses and numerous leaders through our various award programs, such as the Business Impact Awards, Next Generation Leader Awards, and the Outstanding Women of Northern Kentucky awards - an event that not only saw record-breaking attendance but celebrated its 40th anniversary!

On behalf of the NKY Chamber Board of Directors and our amazing team, I thank each of you for your engagement and support. I look forward to working with all of you to continue making our region a wonderful place to live, work, play, learn, and give back.

- Brent Cooper



JOHN HAWKINS,
MPI Consulting, *Chair*



JASON PAYNE,
Republic Bank, *Incoming Chair*

2023 - 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Garren Colvin, St. Elizabeth Healthcare Edgewood, Past Chair
- Geralyn Isler, Business Benefits Insurance Solutions, *Treasurer*
- Jay Wuest, PNC Bank, *Secretary*
- Michael Hall, Citi, *Vice Chair, Talent Strategies*
- David Kay, Fifth Third Bank, *Vice Chair, Leadership Advisory Council*
- Melissa Lutz, Champlin Architecture, *Vice Chair, Membership & Events*
- John Muller, Carespring Health Care Management, *Vice Chair, Public Affairs*
- Kristen Smitherman-Voltaire, Turner Construction Company, *Vice Chair, Inclusive Business Strategies*
- Barb Johnson, Wells Fargo Advisors, *Executive Committee*
- Brady Jolly, Jolly Plumbing (Jolly Enterprises Inc.), *Executive Committee*
- Ray Takigiku, Asellus Ventures, *Executive Committee*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mike Ballenger, Dean Dorton
- Chip Bach, Turfway Park Racing & Gaming
- Gaby Batshoun, Global Business Solutions, Inc.
- Catrena Bowman, NKY Community Action Commission
- Allyson Cook, ERIGO Employer Solutions
- Brent Degenhardt, City Wide Facility Solutions
- Normand Desmarais, TiER1 Performance
- Josh Duckworth, altafiber
- Paul Furtado, Prysmian Group
- Pamela Goetting, Goering Center for Family & Private Business - University of Cincinnati
- Dan Janka, Mazak Corporation
- James Lokesak, Skyline Chili - Crescent Springs
- Laura Lyons, ATech Training, Inc.
- Ken Muth, Duke Energy
- Shannon Oldfield, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport
- Eric Pozarycki, DHL Express (USA) Inc.
- Billy Santos, Truist
- Lee Scheben, Heritage Bank
- John Sieg, Fifth Third Bank
- Lacy Starling, LINK Media
- Julie Tapke, Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc.
- Paco Tello, Perfetti Van Melle USA
- Brian Todd, Clark Schaefer Hackett
- Caroline Weltzer, Viox & Viox, Inc.
- Wonda Winkler, Brighton Center, Inc.
- Anna Wolf, TiER1 Performance

EX-OFFICIO / STANDING MEMBERS

- Lee Crume, BE NKY Growth Partnership
- Karen Finan, OneNKY Alliance
- Julie Kirkpatrick, meetNKY, Northern Kentucky CVB
- Kris Knochelmann, Schneller Knochelmann Plumbing, Heating, Air
- Gary Moore, Boone County Fiscal Court
- Steve Pendery, Campbell County Fiscal Court
- Joseph Chillo, Thomas More University
- Fernando Figueroa, Gateway Community and Technical College
- Candace McGraw, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport
- Paul Meier, City of Crestview Hills
- Dr. Cady Short-Thompson, Northern Kentucky University
- Matt Turner, Boone County Schools

INVESTORS CIRCLE



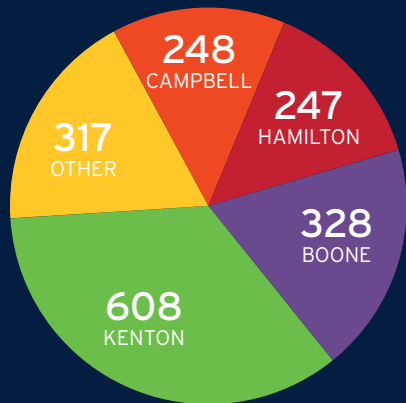


MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS SIZE
10 and under • 992 11 - 50 • 431
50+ • 325

Membership Growth



Members by County



83 COMMUNITY AWARDS
SINCE 2018



YOUR CHAMBER AT A GLANCE



LAUNCHED
FORT THOMAS & FLORENCE
BUSINESS COUNCILS



15 COST SAVING PROGRAMS

55
Net Promoter Score

109
Events

Top Member Industries



Construction/Industrial/Architecture
Community, Government & Nonprofit
Healthcare
Manufacturing
Transportation/Logistics/Warehousing

51 Board of Directors **143** Board of Advisors **15** Investors Circle Members

2 LEADERSHIP TRIPS
(since 2023)



6 INTERNATIONAL TRIPS
(since 2018)

46 CHAMBER Ambassadors

1,000+
VOLUNTEERS

@ 1 New Website
381,000 page views

✉ 14,101 Email Subscribers

📖 6 Business Journals

34
Ribbon Cuttings

🎙 50 Podcast Episodes

23
24

ADVOCACY

Learn More: www.nkychamber.com/advocacy



80+

Legislative Reports, Newsletters & Update Calls



900+

Engaged Program Attendees



30+

Public Affairs & Issue Committee Meetings

COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES



Business Advocacy Council



Healthcare



Business Competitiveness Council



NKY Works (Formally known as GROW NKY)



Energy, Environment & Infrastructure



Political Involvement Committee



Employer Legal Strategies



New: Business Technology / Cybersecurity

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

236
Bills Tracked Throughout

30
Bills Supported & Passed

8
Bills Supported & Defeated

1
Bill Opposed & Passed

27
Bills Opposed & Defeated

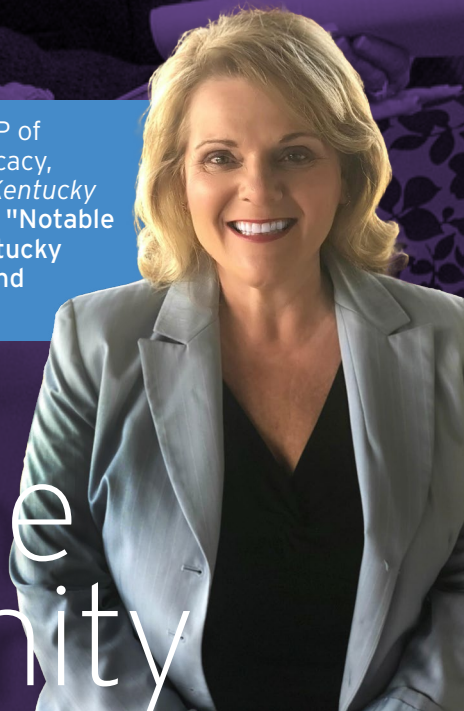
NORTHERN KENTUCKY CHAMBER POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The NKY Chamber PAC thoroughly vets and advocates for pro-business policies, candidates and officials



\$17,000
Candidate Contributions

Tami Wilson, VP of Business Advocacy, named to the Kentucky Gazette's 2023 "Notable Women in Kentucky Government and Politics" list.



Advocating for the business community

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Developing our region's leaders

REGIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP (RYL)

RYL is a community leadership development program for high school juniors in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

30th
Anniversary

51
Students

1,216
Alumni

ENCOUNTER NKY

Encounter NKY assists in retaining talented young professionals and newcomers to the NKY Metro region.

62
Participants to date

44%
Participant-Indicated Retention Rate

LEADERSHIP NKY (LNK)

LNK brings established leaders together to acquire an understanding of the strengths and challenges of the region and the skills necessary to engage others in collaborative efforts to address them.

45th
Anniversary

51
Business Leaders

1,525
Alumni

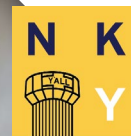
W "I came to the area in 2020 but after going through the Encounter NKY program I feel like I have a deeper understanding and connection to the region."
- Bri Agner, Associate Director of Alumni Engagement, Stewardship at Thomas More University

Learn More: www.nkychamber.com/leadership

BUSINESS COUNCILS

Fostering business connections

This year two Business Councils were established to foster collaboration, promote economic growth, and support the development of businesses in the community. Meetings are held monthly and serve as a platform for networking, knowledge sharing, and advocacy on issues impacting local businesses.



Florence Business Council

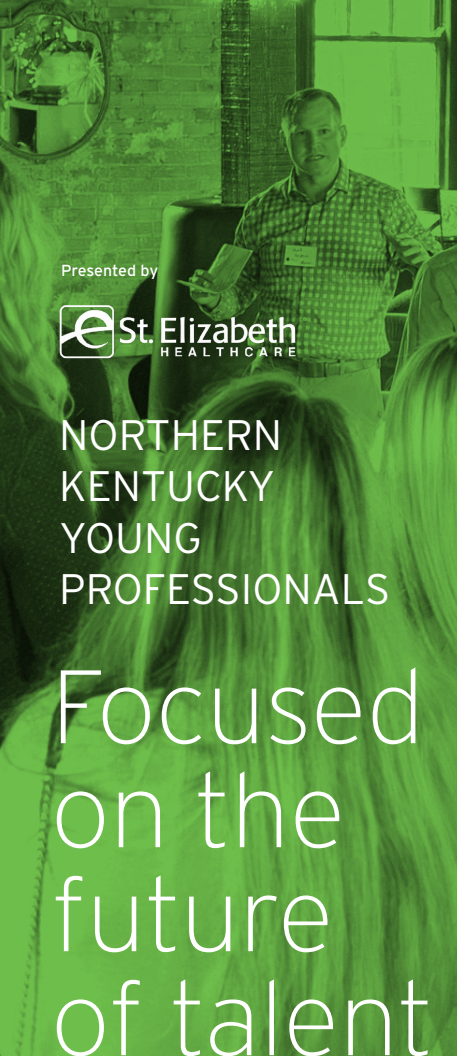
Chair: David Wallace, Chairman & CEO, Heritage Bank



Fort Thomas Business Council

Chair: Nick Rolf, Licensed Agent, Gross Insurance

Learn More: www.nkychamber.com/business-councils



Presented by



NORTHERN KENTUCKY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Focused on the future of talent

WOMEN'S INITIATIVE

Helping women to connect, grow & achieve in business

The NKY Chamber's Women's Initiative is the leading organization for women of all career stages working toward business and professional success.

15th Anniversary of the Women's Initiative

22 Professional Development and Networking Events

100+ Committee Members

2,126 Engaged Program Attendees

WOMEN'S INITIATIVE PROGRAMMING

- Regional Summit
- Annual Breakfast
- Mentoring & Roundtables
- Professional Series
- Outstanding Women of Northern Kentucky
- Connect Hour

Learn More: www.nkychamber.com/womensinitiative

Northern Kentucky Young Professionals (NKYP) strives to create opportunities for young professionals (YPs) in the region to connect with peers, enhance their professional development, and impact the community.

750+ Engaged Young Professionals

128 Participating Companies

24 NGLA Honorees

NEW INITIATIVES

- NKYP Event Pass:** Designed specifically for YPs, the pass simplifies access to nearly every NKY Chamber event with one annual cost.
- NKYP Annual Service Learning Project w/ Emergency Shelter of NKY:** YPs came together monthly to volunteer with the Emergency Shelter.

NKYP PROGRAMMING

- Lunchtime Leader Chats
- Next Generation Leader Awards
- Bourbon and Boards
- Cocktails and Conversation
- Brews and Baseball
- NKYP Elevated Events

Learn More: www.nkychamber.com/NKYP



TALENT STRATEGIES & INCLUSION

It all starts with a strong workforce

1,061 Engaged Program Attendees

22 Talent Strategies Spotlight Podcast Episodes

266 Minority-Owned Business Members

TALENT STRATEGIES & INCLUSION PROGRAMMING

- HR 100
- Workplace Safety Tours
- HR Strategic Six-Pack
- National Civics Bee
- Talent Strategies Symposium
- Inclusive Business Strategies Series
- Inclusive Business Strategies Breakfast
- FC Cincinnati Global Experience Night

TALENT STRATEGIES & INCLUSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Awarded nine grants in partnership with Duke Energy Foundation to minority, veteran, and women-owned small businesses
- Partnered with BE NKY, meetNKY and NKY Works on regional marketing effort at Kentucky State Fair.
- Presented inaugural Inclusive Excellence Award, Sponsored by St. Elizabeth Healthcare
- Produced Livability NKY, a relocation magazine spotlighting our region's assets

Established Talent Strategies and Inclusion Partnerships:



Learn More: www.nkychamber.com/talent



BOARD OF ADVISORS

AAA Club Alliance
 Adams Law
 altafiber
 Amazon
 American Medical Response
 (Rural Metro)
 Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
 Apex Environmental Services, LLC
 AssuredPartners
 Barnes Dennig
 Belterra Casino Resort
 Boone County Fiscal Court
 Bricker Graydon LLP
 Business Benefits Insurance
 Solutions
 C-Forward, Inc.
 Carespring Health Care Management
 Carl Zeiss Vision
 Castellini Group Of Companies
 Celanese
 Central Bank
 CertainTeed
 Charter Communications
 (Spectrum)
 Chas. Seligman Distributing Co.
 CHNK Behavioral Health
 Cincinnati Airport Marriott
 Cincinnati Children's Hospital
 Medical Center
 Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky
 International Airport (CVG)
 Citi
 Coca Cola Consolidated
 Columbia Sussex Corporation
 CommonSpirit Health
 Commonwealth Hotels, LLC
 Corporex Companies, Inc.
 Courtyard By Marriott Cincinnati
 Airport

Creation Museum / Answers in
 Genesis
 CTI Clinical Trial and Consulting
 DBL Law
 Dean Dorton
 Delta Air Lines, Inc.
 DHL Express (USA) Inc.
 Dollar General Distribution Center
 Donna Salyers' Fabulous Bridal
 Donna Salyers' Fabulous Furs
 Duke Energy
 Duro Bag a Novolex Brand
 FC Cincinnati LLC
 Fidelity Investments
 Fifth Third Bank
 First Financial Bank
 Fives Machining Systems, Inc.
 Florence Y'all's Professional Baseball
 Forcht Bank
 Forvis Mazars
 Frost Brown Todd LLP
 Gateway Community and Technical
 College
 General Electric Credit Union
 Global Business Solutions, Inc.
 Hampton Inn Cincinnati Airport
 South
 Heartland Bank
 Heritage Bank
 Holiday Inn Express & Suites
 Cincinnati Riverfront
 Holland Roofing Group, LLC
 HORAN Wealth
 Hotel Covington
 HUB International
 Huff Realty, Inc.
 Humana
 Huntington Bank
 Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL
 Keller Warehousing & Co-Packing
 Kenton County Fiscal Court
 Kerry Toyota
 KLH Engineers
 Klosterman Bakery
 Krauss Maffei Corporation
 L'Oreal USA-Florence Manufacturing
 LPX Group
 MassMutual Ascend
 Mazak Corporation
 McLane Company
 meetNKY, Northern Kentucky CVB
 Meggitt PLC
 Meritor, Inc.
 Merrill Lynch
 Metropolitan Club
 Mubea Inc.
 North American Stainless L.P.
 Northern Kentucky Area
 Development District
 Northern Kentucky Community
 Action Commission
 Northern Kentucky Convention
 Center
 Northern Kentucky University

Northern Kentucky University
 Athletics
 Northern Kentucky Water District
 Northkey Community Care
 Nucor Steel Gallatin
 One Holland Corporation
 Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 Paul Hemmer Company
 P.L. Marketing
 Pepper Construction of Ohio
 Perfetti Van Melle USA
 PNC Bank
 Pomeroy Technologies, LLC
 Post Glover
 Protective Life
 Prysmian Group
 R.A Jones & Co.
 RDI Corporation
 Regal Rexnord Corp
 Republic Bank
 Residence Inn Cincinnati Airport
 Rising Star Casino Resort
 Robert Bosch Automotive Steering
 LLC
 Salyers Group
 Sanitation District No.1
 Schwan's Global Supply Chain Inc.
 St. Elizabeth Healthcare Edgewood
 St. Elizabeth Physicians
 Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company
 SUN Behavioral Health
 SWECO
 Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
 The Christ Hospital
 The Cincinnati Enquirer
 The Cincinnati Reds
 The Kroger Company
 The Madison Event Center
 The Milburn Group
 Thomas J. Dyer Company
 Thomas More University
 Toyota Boshoku America
 Toyota Motor North America
 Transit Authority of Northern
 Kentucky (TANK)
 Truist
 Turfway Park Racing & Gaming
 Turner Construction Company
 Tyson Foods
 U.S. Bank
 United Way Of Greater Cincinnati
 University of Cincinnati
 University of Kentucky
 Verst Logistics
 Wendal Inc.
 WesBanco
 Winegardner & Hammons Inc.
 YMCA Of Greater
 Cincinnati
 Zalla Companies



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 President & CEO



GENE KIRCHNER
 Sr Vice President & COO



LYNSEY MCCLUNG
 CFO



LYNN ABELN
 Vice President,
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STACEY ARMAH
 Leadership Program
 Specialist



BETH FARRER
 Member Relations
 Specialist



KYLE FRIZZELL
 Director of Events



ANNEMARIE HOOPES
 Program Assistant,
 Public Affairs



BEN GASTRIGHT
 Director of Marketing &
 Communications



SHERI GOODENOUGH
 Accounting
 Specialist



DIANA MCGLADE
 Sponsorship
 Investments Strategist



HOLLY NIBERT
 Director,
 Women's Initiative



ERIN PRESTON
 Executive Assistant



**ERIN REARDON,
 CMP, DES**
 Associate Director of Events



NANCY SPIVEY, CCE, IOM
 Vice President,
 Talent Strategies



DASHAI THOMPSON
 Director of Inclusive
 Business Strategies



ANN MARIE WHELAN
 Director of
 Leadership



TAMI WILSON
 Vice President,
 Government Relations
 & Business Advocacy



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 Certificates of Origin

STAFF DIRECTORY



