



DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Message from BusinessFirst Staff!

Season's Greetings to everyone! 2024 has been a productive year for all of us with some great new companies choosing the Dayton Region for their projects and existing companies choosing to expand.

Jurisdictions added 97 Business Retention Visits with local companies. There were very successful Business Walks in Fairborn, Miami Township, West Carrollton and Centerville that touched an additional 238 businesses. Greene County hosted a Cold Storage Roundtable event in November and we started Resource Partner Zoom Updates to keep partners better informed about the tools that exist for our businesses.

Our success is due to the cooperation and collaboration that has been sustained for more than 20 years from all of our jurisdictions and resource partners. Looking forward to what we can create in 2025 to continue to grow our businesses!

End of Year BR&E Reporting Update

As we near the end of 2024, I'd like to make a request for you all to submit any remaining BR&E records that have not yet been logged.

If you are an Executive Pulse user (including Montgomery County & select jurisdictions), please log in and submit any remaining BR&Es for the year here <https://www.executivepulse.net/Login.aspx>.

BR&E data is a critical part of the DDC and JobsOhio's strategies and allows us to better identify project funding opportunities and offer relevant business services to grow and retain the workforce.

For additional questions, please contact **Matt Shimp** with the Dayton Development Coalition or **Gwen Eberly** with BusinessFirst!



BusinessFirst! Outreach Specialist Meeting

Join us for an inspiring and insightful event focusing on Quality of Life, as we explore initiatives and opportunities designed to enhance the well-being of our community.

Speakers Include:

- Bonnie Buthker, Chief Community Officer, Ohio EPA
- Karen L. Hesser - CEO, Five Rivers MetroParks
- Kim Freeman, DrPH - Director of Health Promotion, PHDMC
- Cynthia Crews - Business Relations Specialist, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

To access The Tank, enter via The Hub at 31 S. Main St. Parking is available at the Reibold Building Parking Garage (14 W. 4th St.) Parking validation is provided.

[EVENT REGISTRATION](#)

BusinessFirst! Virtual Resource Meeting

We are excited to announce an upcoming opportunity to hear from John Seibel, Executive Director of GoCyber Collective, a nonprofit dedicated to bridging the growing gap in cybersecurity awareness and education. With the rise of cyberattacks threatening critical infrastructure, businesses, and individual citizens, GoCyber Collective is on a mission to create a safer digital environment for all.

Join us on February 18, 2025 at 1:30pm for this insightful virtual session, where John will share how the GoCyber Collective is working to build a more secure community and explore ways the BusinessFirst! network can collaborate to protect businesses and individuals alike.

Stay tuned for event details, and don't miss this opportunity to learn how we can support and strengthen our community together.



Optimize Your Plant Floor

January 8, 2025



2025 Dayton AI Day

When a plant is not laid out well, it can cause waste.

Discover How Manufacturers are Revolutionizing Efficiency! Join us for an insightful session on how manufacturers are optimizing their plant floors and boosting operational efficiency. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn about this cutting-edge technology that is transforming the industry!

[EVENT REGISTRATION](#)

AI is rapidly transforming industries, driving innovation, efficiency, and competitive advantages. However, with rapid change comes the need for upskilling, considering ethical guidelines, and navigating regulatory landscapes. Dayton AI Day is not just another conference - it's a hands-on exploration of how to implement AI effectively. It's a place where theory meets practice, where leaders from diverse sectors can learn actionable strategies to incorporate AI into their operations.

Who Should Attend?

From the C-Suite to the frontline in industries from healthcare and finance to human resources and law to information technology and academia, if you want to remain at the forefront of your industry, you won't want to miss Dayton AI Day!

[EVENT REGISTRATION](#)



Future-Proofing Your Industry with AI: Insights from the Experts

January 17, 2025
Sinclair, Building 12

Join us for networking, breakfast and a presentation on AI, featuring insights from our panel of experts.

Discover how AI is revolutionizing industries—from real estate to banking, local government, and construction. Join our panel of AI experts as they delve into practical applications, transformative success stories, and cutting-edge advancements tailored to your field.

Whether you're a realtor, local government representative, or leader in construction, this is your chance to future-proof your industry with AI insights that matter.

[EVENT REGISTRATION](#)

Workforce Virtual Meetup

January 28, 2025

Workforce/Human Resources Meet Up is for anyone responsible for human resources or skilling up your manufacturing workforce. This roundtable discussion group covers topics ranging from recruitment/retention, building the workforce pipeline, training resources, funding sources, HR policies and practices, and others.

At this meet up, we'll be discussing the key components of an Internship Program and how SOCHE can help!

In order to simulate an in-person event and to ensure a worthwhile discussion, please be prepared to turn on your video AND contribute with questions, best practices, and suggestions.

[EVENT REGISTRATION](#)

DACC - Workforce Resources

The Dayton Chamber Workforce Partnership works closely with a number of regional partners to find quick answers from various resources in our area. From government agencies to education and private sector entities, we help you uncover the information you need to succeed. Use our searchable database to identify the data you require.

REGIONAL RESOURCES

Ohio Cybersecurity for Small Businesses Pilot Program

Small businesses face cyber-attacks daily, often finding themselves highly vulnerable and ill-prepared to respond. According to the Cyber Readiness Institute, two-thirds of cyber-attacks target small businesses. These enterprises frequently serve as gateways to larger corporations or supply chains, making them attractive targets. Cyber-attacks can lead to substantial financial and reputational damage for these businesses.

To mitigate these risks, small businesses should invest time in cybersecurity training. This training not only provides industry-recognized credentials and badges, but also educates employees on crucial security practices. Training can help small businesses improve their cybersecurity measures, reducing the likelihood of attacks and enhancing their ability to respond effectively if targeted. It is essential for small businesses to be prepared to handle cyber incidents.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

PROGRAM REGISTRATION



OhioTechNet

Training Ohio's Manufacturing Workforce

The members of the Ohio Technical Skills Innovation Network, or Ohio TechNet is nationally recognized for developing AND implementing collaborative, inclusive, innovative solutions that meet manufacturing and technology workforce needs.

Ohio TechNet supports workplace development and academic professionals at Ohio educational institutions to incubate, develop and sustain innovative programming that accelerates the growth of



Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans

The Reynolds and Reynolds Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans (EBV) program supports the success of military veterans who are aspiring entrepreneurs.

The EBV at Wright State is part of a larger consortium of higher education institutions, initiated by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University. The consortium is comprised of universities across the U.S., including Texas A&M,

Ohio's manufacturing and technical workforce.

Ohio TechNet partners benefit from peer-to-peer collaboration, technical assistance and access to resources, making program expansion and innovation at their institution more efficiently, faster to implement, and easier to sustain.

[DISCOVER HOW OHIO TECHNET CAN HELP YOU!](#)



2025 Dayton Development Coalition Annual Meeting + Economic Review

February 5, 2025

Join the Dayton Development Coalition as they celebrate the previous year's success. Details will be provided as they become available!

[EVENT INFORMATION & REGISTRATION](#)

UCLA, the University of Connecticut, Louisiana State University, Florida State University, Saint Joseph's University and the University of Missouri.

The full program is taught by entrepreneurs, professionals and faculty in Wright State University's Raj Soin College of Business who support small business development.

Post-9/11 veterans with honorable discharge are eligible to apply for the program. There is no requirement that applicants be enrolled as a student.

[INFORMATION & APPLICATION](#)



NATO Parliamentary Assembly 2025 Spring Session

May 23-26, 2025

Details to be provided soon!

[EVENT WEBSITE](#)



Created in 2001, the nationally recognized BusinessFirst! program uses a customer oriented approach to economic development that connects businesses to resources in the Dayton Region. We are the single-point of contact for all of your business needs. BusinessFirst! has provided assistance to over 7,800 businesses in the Greater Dayton Region - we are here to assist your company, too.

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