Established in 1946, the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization that works to preserve the best possible business climate and quality of life for Shawnee.
The Shawnee Chamber Corporation 501(c)(6) includes the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, and two divisions including the Economic Development Council and Visit Shawnee. These entities work together with the goal of making Shawnee a great place to do business, whether you are a visitor, a company or resident. This report highlights the Chamber’s strategic priorities and the progress we have achieved in 2016.

A STRONG BUSINESS PARTNER SINCE 1946

The Shawnee Chamber of Commerce celebrated a milestone anniversary in 2016. It was a year to reflect on the growth and success of the Shawnee business community and the Chamber. Numerous facts, stories, photos and a video highlighted the Chamber through the decades. View the spectacular Chamber 70th Anniversary video that premiered in January 2016 at http://bit.ly/2rzNrhX.

IN THE BEGINNING:
- 46 members, paying $12 in dues formed the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce.
- News headlines report the Chamber was organized to boost, improve and encourage business in the Shawnee district.
- E. Paul Amos was elected the first Chairman of the Board.
- The Chamber held a fundraiser to help the Shawnee Fire Department purchase a new pumper truck.

The events and people have changed and after 70 years the Shawnee Chamber continues to grow. Our community’s strong commitment of making Shawnee succeed plays an important role in this growth.

MEMBERSHIP VALUE AND SERVICE

The Shawnee Chamber of Commerce provides value for our members’ investment to enhance their growth and success through relevant, innovative programs and services.

RESULTS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Shawnee Economic Development Council (SEDC) promotes job creation, business expansion and real estate development in Shawnee.

RESULTS

Eight SEDC projects were completed in 2016 and resulted in:

- 215 NEW JOBS
- $10M NEW ANNUAL PAYROLL
- $30 MILLION NEW CAPITAL INVESTMENT
- 54 ATTRACTION & RETENTION/EXPANSION PROJECTS
Shawnee Tomorrow is a community leadership development program of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce Foundation a 501 (c)(3). Established in 1989, program graduates serve in leadership and elected positions in the city, county and state along with boards and appointed committees of the community.

RESULTS

350+ GRADUATES

28 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Shawnee Chamber of Commerce advocates for public policies which promote the interests of Shawnee Chamber businesses and drive economic prosperity.

RESULTS

- The Chamber’s 2016 Legislative Platform continues to emphasize key quality of life factors that drive economic development including but not limited to education, transportation and maintaining development tools and incentives.

TOURISM

Visit Shawnee works to increase visitors and generate room nights in order to provide a positive impact in the tourism segment of the local Shawnee economy.

More hotel rooms were added in Shawnee including 114 rooms at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, in addition to new construction for the 78 room Fairfield Inn & Suites and the 67 room Comfort Inn & Suites.

RESULTS

FULFILLED

REQUESTS FOR RELOCATION OR VISITOR INFORMATION

2016 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

FULFILLED

DIRECT

28

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT/RELATED EXPENSES

14%

MEMBERSHIP

15%

PROGRAMS/EVENTS

55%

OTHER

47%

TOTAL EXPENSES

$1,053,140

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

RENT/EQUIP/SUPPLIES

18%

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

9%

TOTAL REVENUE

$1,102,796

2016 REVENUES

CONTRACTS

5%

MEMBERSHIP DUES

12%

PROGRAMS/EVENTS

24%

OTHER

15%

YOUR CHAMBER INVESTMENTS AT WORK

Provided

Launched a new mobile responsive website and completed the brand transition from Shawnee CVB to Visit Shawnee

INFORMATION AND PROMOTIONS FOR

5,400 VISITOR REQUESTS

REQUESTS FOR RELOCATION OR VISITOR INFORMATION

2016 REVENUES

CONTRACTS

14%

MEMBERSHIP DUES

15%

PROGRAMS/EVENTS

47%

OTHER

24%

TOTAL REVENUE

$1,102,796

2016 EXPENSES

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT/RELATED EXPENSES

14%

MEMBERSHIP

15%

PROGRAMS/EVENTS

55%

RENT/EQUIP/SUPPLIES

18%

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

9%

TOTAL EXPENSES

$1,053,140

YOUR CHAMBER INVESTMENTS AT WORK

Provided

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INFORMATION AND PROMOTIONS FOR

5,400 VISITOR REQUESTS

YOUR CHAMBER INVESTMENTS AT WORK
THE TOP 1 PERCENT OF CHAMBERS IN THE U.S.

“The Shawnee Chamber’s 5-Star Accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce places us in the top 1 percent of the 7,022 chambers across the nation,” said Chamber President | CEO Linda Leeper.

The U.S. Chamber accreditation provides criteria and standards of excellence for chamber planning and performance. The Shawnee Chamber earned the prestigious 5-Star Accreditation in 2014 after meeting rigorous standards for leadership, staff development, chamber policy and procedures, programs – including governance, government affairs, technology, planning and finance. Reaccreditation will be necessary in 2019 to maintain this standard of excellence.

2016 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2016 Chairman of the Board
Tim Deves, Edward Jones

2016 Chair-Elect
Brian Brown, TeamHealth

2016 Treasurer
Brad Shull, Shawnee Mission Ford

Past Chair
Leon Logan, CPA | Summers, Spencer & Company, P.A.

President | CEO
Linda Leeper | Shawnee Chamber of Commerce

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pam Cooper, The UPS Store
Todd Fitzpatrick
Dr. Patrick Hammond, Hammond Chiropractic
Michael Knecht, Shawnee Mission Health
Kent Luther, Bayer
Justin Nichols, Lathrop & Gage LLP
Heidi Thummel, GBA - Architects and Engineers
John Wills, State Farm Insurance

Ex-officio

JoLynn Brosnan, Chair, Visit Shawnee
Michelle Distler, Mayor, City of Shawnee
Jeff Hagen, Grafton, Inc., Chair, SEDC
Frank Harwood, Superintendent, USD #232
Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent, SMSD

CURRENT CHAMBER STAFF

Linda Leeper, President | CEO
Mary Taylor, Senior Vice President
Kevin Fern, Executive Director, Visit Shawnee
Elli Bowen, Director, Business Development & Retention
Joyce Allard, Communications Manager
Shelby Ostrom, Membership Director
Marlene Shirley, Executive Assistant

SHAWNEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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Our Mission: To develop and enhance our community through dynamic leadership.