

Annual Report 2025

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## PAT FREW **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Covington Business Council has never been more viable and stronger than it is now. With a record 581 member companies, the CBC has experienced 27% growth in the past year. We've hosted more than 3,800 people at our 100+ events this year. We've also been a strong partner to a number of local organizations including:

- In the City of Covington, we're "boots on the ground" as part of their Bridging the Gap campaign, keeping residents, businesses and visitors informed about Northern Kentucky's two big bridge projects: 4<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge linking Covington and Newport which will be closed at least two years, starting in mid-January and the Brent Spence Companion Bridge. CBC is assisting in special discounts and offers from Covington businesses to counteract the negative effect of reduced transit options. CBC also took the lead in working with the City to hold regular roundtable meetings with industry specific companies (Life Sciences and Marketing/Branding Agencies to start) to help the City learn about the challenges and needs of these leading businesses so they can maintain their Covington locations and continue to provide a strong tax revenue base for City services.
- For SparkHaus, the entrepreneurial hub, CBC through its Foundation is providing six months rent
  for ten companies, half in 2025 and half in 2026 and also providing mini six-month CBC
  memberships while connecting these businesses to CBC organizations in their sector that can assist
  them.
- For the Covington School Board, CBC has provided leading voices from the business communities to advise the board on issues related to its master plan for buildings and for its search for a new Superintendent, listing qualities needed for the new chief executive of the schools when they are hired later in 2026.

We are pleased to share highlights/accomplishments of the CBC in the past year as we seek to provide value to our stakeholders and fulfill our mission of advocating for a healthy business climate in the City of Covington...



### JACKIE ROBERTO BOARD CHAIR



As CBC members, we've had a front row seat to the innovation, leadership, and connection that's fueling Covington's current and future success. Throughout the year, the CBC has played a role in accelerating that progress—through advocacy, collaboration, and celebration.

In that spirit, the CBC board is focused on three objectives within the strategic plan:

- 1. Connect: Provide a platform for members to engage and collaborate with one another.
- 2. Champion: Educate businesses on issues that may impact them.
- 3. Celebrate: Communicate positive outcomes championed by CBC.

Additionally, our Executive Director Pat Frew, spearheaded a recurring meeting between Mayor Washington, city staff and industry leaders. The first one focused on the Life Science sector. Subsequent meetings will focus on additional sectors of our growing economy. This forum provides opportunities for collaboration and partnership and is an example of how the CBC accelerate progress.

Thank you for being a part of this vibrant business community!

### Our Staff



PAT FREW **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 



LAUREN SENVISKY

MARKETING AND

EVENTS MANAGER



JENNIFER DANNER
OPERATIONS
MANAGER

### **Board of Directors**



JACKIE ROBERTO
BOARD CHAIR,
MADISON DESIGN



JAY FOSSETT CHAIR EMERITUS, CITY OF DAYTON



TONY MILBURN FOUNDATION CHAIR, THE MILBURN GROUP



KENNETH WEBB TREASURER, REPUBLIC BANK



STEVE TRACY
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR,
ATWORK PERSONNEL



LIZ REEDER EVENTS CHAIR, STRAUSS TROY



GREG PAETH
SECRETARY,
COVINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD
COLLABORATIVE



EMILY BADGER
HOLLAND
RESTAURANT GROUP



ANTHONY BRADFORD

A.M. TITAN



JOHN HURD DUKE ENERGY



DR. FERNANDO FIGUEROA
GATEWAY/ KCTCS



JOE KLARE
THE CATALYTIC FUND



JOHN KELLER PNC BANK



JULIE KIRKPATRICK meetNKY



PATRICIA NORTMANN ST. ELIZABETH HEALTHCARE



SHARMILI REDDY CITY OF COVINGTON



BETSY WEBER

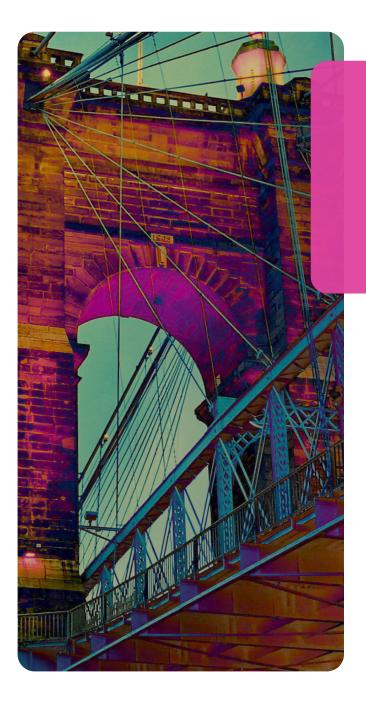
DBL LAW



WILL WEBER SOUTHBANK PARTNERS

# About The Covington Business Council

With a member-centric focus, the Covington Business Council delivers an experience that is personal and focused on the success of its members. CBC provides educational programming, impactful assistance and meaningful opportunities for its members to advance their business and professional growth.



#### **Our Vision**

The Covington Business Council maximizes the potential for economic growth in the City of Covington

#### **Our Mission**

To actively promote and build a positive business environment in Covington, Kentucky

#### **Reasons to Join & Renew**

- Covington Centric
- Relationship Driven Culture
- 1-1 Assistance
- Broad Membership
- Impactful Connections
- Relevant Programming

# Our Year By the Numbers

581
MEMBERS

115
NEW MEMBERS

100+
EVENTS

56% EMAIL OPEN RATE 27% 12 MONTH GROWTH RATE 3,862 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

# Monthly Luncheons

These luncheons are a cornerstone of the council's programming, offering a regular opportunity for members to come together for networking, education, and community engagement. Held at various venues across Covington, these luncheons feature keynote speakers, panel discussions, or presentations on topics of interest to the local business community. Attendees enjoy a delicious meal while gaining valuable insights, industry updates, and actionable strategies to enhance their businesses. With a focus on fostering connections and facilitating knowledge-sharing, Covington Business Council Monthly Luncheons provide a platform for members to stay informed, inspired, and engaged in the vibrant business ecosystem of Covington.



# **CBC**Connects

CBC Connects events are designed to facilitate networking and collaboration among Covington Business Council members. These gatherings offer structured networking sessions, interactive activities, and engaging discussions on topics relevant to the local business community. CBC Connects events provide attendees with valuable opportunities to expand their professional networks and forge new partnerships.



### Our Leadership Team

Terry Dean - Dean of Sales Marketing
Jenn Fennell Klein - KV National
Melissa Frazier - Waterleaf Solutions
Lauren Moore - Loan Officer Lauren

Mike Stubblefield - eXp Realty
Steve Tracy - AtWork Personnel
Tonya Wolfe - City Wide Home Mortgage

# Golf Outings

The Fall and Spring Golf Outings offer members of the Covington Business Council a chance to enjoy a day of golf while networking with fellow professionals. Held at prestigious golf courses in the Covington area, these outings combine friendly competition with opportunities for business networking and relationshipbuilding. Participants can enjoy a round of golf in a scenic setting while connecting with peers from across the business community.

**Spring Outing Participants** 

140

Fall Outing Participants

86





# Signature Events

### **CBC** Roundtables

Roundtable discussions offer a platform for in-depth conversations on specific topics or issues affecting the Covington business community. These events are held bimonthly and are led by industry leaders or subject matter experts. Sessions encourage participants to share insights, best practices, and solutions to common challenges. Roundtables foster collaboration, innovation, and knowledge-sharing among attendees, ultimately driving positive change and growth.

**Total Attendance 107+** 

### **After Hours Socials**

These events provide a relaxed and informal setting for professionals to unwind after a day's work while fostering meaningful connections. Held at various venues throughout Covington, After Hours Socials offer attendees the chance to mingle, exchange ideas, and build relationships in a laid-back atmosphere. Whether enjoying drinks or hors d'oeuvres, participants can network in a vibrant and dynamic environment. **Total Attendance 389**+

### Non-Profit Lunch & Learns

Nonprofit Lunch and Learns are educational sessions, held quarterly that tailored to the needs of nonprofit organizations in Covington. These events provide valuable resources, tools, and expertise to help nonprofits thrive and fulfill their missions. From fundraising strategies to board development, Nonprofit Lunch and Learns offer practical insights and actionable advice to support the nonprofit sector's success.

**Total Attendance 126+** 

### Hard Hat Tours

Hard Hat Tours provide exclusive behind-the-scenes access to upcoming development projects and construction sites in Covington. Led by industry experts and project managers, these tours offer participants a unique opportunity to learn about the latest developments shaping the city's landscape. From commercial buildings to revitalization efforts, Hard Hat Tours provide valuable insights into Covington's growth and progress.

**Total Attendance 312+** 

# Advocacy Initiatives



Partnering with City of Covington on Bridging Business campaign designed to help come up with promotions and activities to strengthen business for bars and restaurants during the demolition and replacement of the Fourth St. Bridge in addition to the Brent Spence Bridge replacement.



Bridging Back Business- Supporting the River Cities campaign to promote food and drink discount deals and encourage patronizing bars and restaurants from Covington to Dayton during the shut down of the fire-ravaged Big Mac Bridge in late 2024 to spring 2025.



Covington Common Consumption Area-Garnering support from bars and restaurants and other business institutions, NKY Chamber and meetNKY to galvanize support from Covington City Commission to move closer to instituting a pilot Common Consumption Area for the Central Business District.

### Welcome **Our New Members**

Align Interiors LLC **AMEND Consulting** 

American Legacy Theatre **Anago Cleaning Systems** Atlantic Sign Company

**Balloon Station** 

Barking Squirrel Media Bone Dry Roofing

Bourbon Trails & Bluegrass Tales

**Broken Arrow Holding** Broz Insurance Agency Inc

**Buddy's Flooring** 

**BVM** 

C. Ed Massey & Associates

Centric Consulting

Chappell Masonry Restoration

Cincinnati Public Radio City of Bellevue

Colliers

Commercial Alliance Commonwealth Hotels

Comparion Insurance Agency

Concours Devou, LLC

Crescent Financial Services, LLC

**CSSI** 

**Demetrios** 

Dice on Draft LLC **Dynamic Companies** E. Post Public Relations ECT Cleaning LLC

Edgewood Green Technologies

**Edward Jones Edward Jones** 

**Elevated Marketing LLC** ENZO Building and Design, LLC

Epic Brands- Agave and Rye/ Tokyo Pie

F & Goode Desserts Farmer Nate's Sauce Front Line dev

Galaxie

Gribbell Law Firm Handzy Shop + Studio

Heritage Management Group LLC

**HM Insurance Group** Hortons Consulting

Howard, Nunn & Bloom CPAs

IMEG Corp.

Independence Cleaners

Jude's Custom Exhaust, Auto Repair & Towing

Kings Hammer Kowalski Law, PLLC

Krystalyn O'Bryan Photography

**KYDA Consulting** Land Group Title Leslie Herbert Jewelry Mainspring Wellness

Marc Wilson and Associates, LLC

Mattone Media LLC.

**MedMutual Protect** 

Megen Construction Company

Merrill

Merriman Anderson Architects, Inc. Miss Tabby's Toys and Treats

Model Group

Monopoly Men Construction and Real Estate Firm

Mosaic Intel, LLC MySizeology® **NAI** Bergman

National Lieutenant Governors Association

Neal Pyszka- Huff Realty **New Riff Distilling** 

NKY.AI

Northwestern Mutual

OneDigital

**Optimal Employee Relations** Park Place HR Investigations Premier Planning Group

**Professional Business Services** 

Promach

Punch Bug Marketing

Purple Paisley Local Artisan Shop

Rawe Financial, LLC Real Talk Therapy, LLC Realtor with Sibcy Cline

Rebecca Reckers for Kenton County Commissioner

Reliant Search Group Restoration Cincinnati LLC

Retired SĒDR STUDIO

Sherry Goodridge For Kenton County Commissioner

Shobiz Design

Skylight Financial Group Southgate Conference Center Stigler Supply Company Style House by Brittany

Succulent Senorita Greenhouse Summit Risk and Resilience Services

Sunny Destinations Travel Supporting Strategies Tetelestai Capital

The Cincinnatian Hotel, Curio Collection by Hilton

The Delish Dish The Green Door The McCracken Group

The N.E.T.s Effect Company, LLC

The Phillips Group

The United States Playing Card Co/Cartamundi UK College of Medicine - Northern KY Campus

Verdantas

Victory Bright LLC DBA Gotcha Covered

Vision One IT Consulting West Sixth Covington Haus Western & Southern

**WTLB Productions** Zaltana Wellness























