

An Economic Development Update

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

***Jacob Henry Mansion - Victorian Ball Room
Joliet, Illinois***



Will County

CENTER for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Will County Center for Economic Development (CED)

- **A Private Non-Profit Economic Development Corporation**
- **Formed in 1981 to diversify the economic base of Will County**
- **Comprised of business and government leaders**
- **Serves all of Will County**
- **Partner with the Will County Chamber of Commerce**
- **The One-Stop Shop for Business Assistance in Will County**

CED Mission Statement

The mission of the Will County Center for Economic Development is to assist in the recruitment of new business, the retention and expansion of existing business and the creation of new jobs and investment within Will County.

The CED's leadership since 2006 has worked to:

- **Reinvent the product that is Will County**
- **Be a model for job growth and capital investment**
- **Grow *better and smarter* as we grow bigger**
- **Bring a higher quality of life to all corners of Will County.**

CED Programs and Services

- **Market Will County as a Premier Business Location**
- **Recruitment of New Businesses**
- **Retention & Expansion of Existing Businesses**
- **Broad Data Base on Will County**
- **Site and Building Selection Assistance**
- **Government Relations**
- **Business Incentive Programs**
- **Actively Support Public Policies Which Further the CED's Mission**
- **Create a "*Culture of Economic Development*" throughout the County**



2010 Program of Work – Key Elements

Create new jobs in a Recovering Global Economy

New Business Recruitment by Target Industry Clusters

Existing Business Retention/Expansion

Infrastructure: The Will County Blueprint for Transportation

Workforce Development

Building Community Capacity - Planning for the Future

CED Government Affairs

- **The CED Serves as a Liaison with Municipal and County Governmental Leaders**
- **Cooperates with the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity on State Level Programs**
- **Serves as a Link to State and Federal Legislators**
- **Employs lobbyists in Springfield, IL and Washington, D.C. in order to further our mission**

CED Workforce Development

- Partner with the ***Will County Workforce Investment Board*** and the ***Workforce Services Division of Will County*** in providing services to employers and employees
- Work with K – 12 and higher education institutions in the development of an available, skilled labor pool for growing Will County businesses
- Development of career awareness programs for young people for jobs in local businesses (***Dream It. Do It.***)
- Identify programs geared to develop in young people those Skills, Behaviors and Traits needed for success in life and career (***Will County Cares***)



NEXT UP FOR THE CED:

- Release the *Will County Inland Port Impact Study*
- Launch the next five-year CED funding campaign
- Development of the Will County Cares Strategic Plan in partnership with the Will County Community Foundation
- Host the Fourth Annual Global Logistics Summit, September 21st at the Bolingbrook Golf Club
- Release the 2011 – 2015 CED Strategic Economic Development Plan