

GLR CONNECT

News • Events • Workforce • Membership • & More

Hello there,

GLR remains committed to delivering timely strategic project updates, spotlighting key upcoming events, and sharing notable developments shaping the Greater Lima region. Explore this issue to stay informed on the latest activity and opportunities across our community.

WHAT'S NEW



Local Voices at the Table: AEDG and GLR Attend Ohio Mayors Alliance Gathering

On March 16, AEDG and GLR joined mayors and policy leaders from across Ohio for the joint meeting of the Ohio Mayors Alliance and the Greater Ohio Policy Board. The gathering brought local representatives together to share ideas, discuss statewide challenges, and strengthen collaboration.



Spotlighting the Power of Partnership: AEDG & RGP/JobOhio on Noon Edition

Cindy Leis joined Chase Eikenbary on the Noon Edition with Holly Geaman to discuss the powerful partnership between AEDG and RGP/JobOhio.

We're proud to share how this collaboration is fueling economic development and bringing new opportunities to West Central Ohio. From local projects to state-level support, the momentum in our region is stronger than ever.



Construction Advances at Amazon's Jay Begg Parkway Distribution Center

The Amazon Distribution Center on Jay Begg Parkway continues to progress, with exterior walls now in place. The facility remains on track to be operational this fall.



Columbus Grove Students Tour Downtown Lima for Economic Development Project

Columbus Grove High School's Economic Development class, led by teacher Andy Shafer, spent last week exploring how redevelopment shapes local communities. After a classroom presentation from Greater Lima Region President/CEO Dave Stratton on Tuesday, March 24, students traveled to downtown Lima on Friday for a series of site visits.

The group toured four properties tied to ongoing development discussions:

- **206 E. Market St.** — Tour and discussion with Tim Stanford
- **201 Central Ave.** — Tour with Bart Mills, including the Unicent Building
- **325 S. Main St. (Riverfront One)** — Tour with Shane Coleman
- **130 W. Elm St. (Memorial Hall)** — Urban planning discussion with Stratton and Stanford

Students will now develop their own redevelopment concepts for the sites and present their plans to AEDG and GLR on May 5.



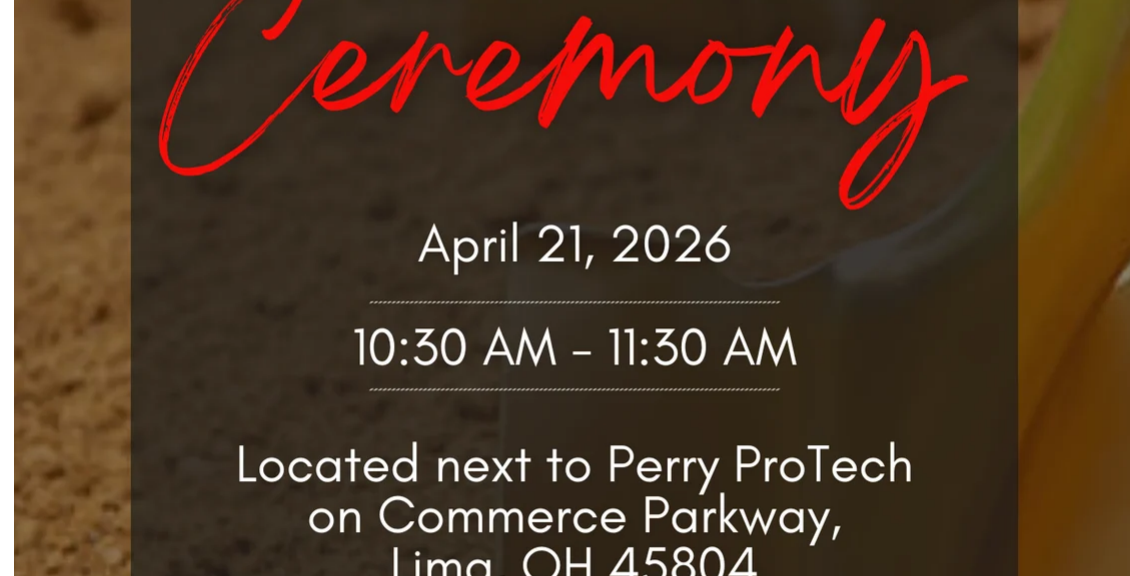
Lima Chosen for Fifth Third's New Small City Initiative

Fifth Third Bank has selected Lima as the inaugural community for its new Small Towns and Small City Initiative, a partnership designed to accelerate resident-driven growth. Through this effort, the bank will bring capital, expertise, and strategic connections to support local priorities—including small-business development, expanded homeownership, and long-term infrastructure improvements.

The initiative centers on strengthening neighborhoods, revitalizing business corridors, and expanding workforce opportunities. While a specific investment amount has not been released, officials confirmed the commitment will total several million dollars.

At the announcement event, AEDG and GLR's Tim Fitzpatrick highlighted the region's ongoing workforce development efforts—an area of focus that aligns closely with Fifth Third's new initiative and its support for building stronger talent pipelines.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

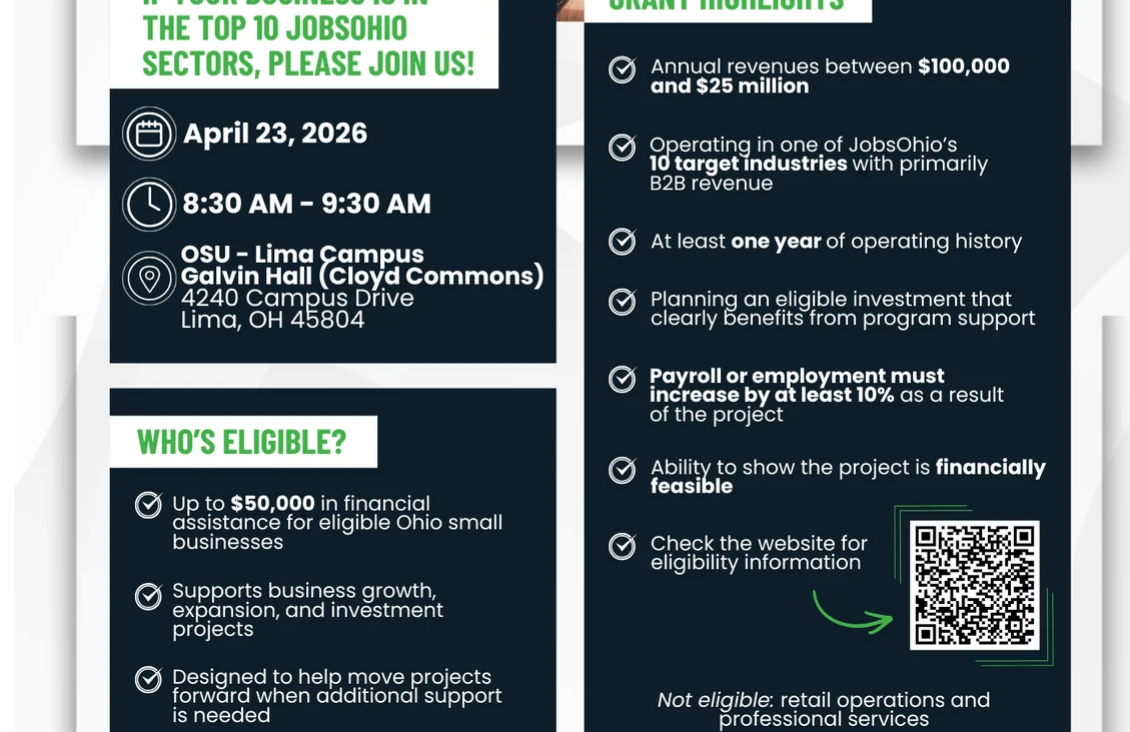


Strengthening Local Care: New Lima Memorial Medical Center Opens in Delphos

Lima Memorial Health System has opened a new medical center in Delphos, offering family medicine, on-site lab services, same-day and walk-in care, plus access to cardiology and general surgery. Staffed by providers with strong local ties, the center strengthens access to trusted, community-focused care.

GLR is proud to support this investment in expanded healthcare access for the Delphos community.

EVENTS



JOIN US FOR TECHCRED: THE COMPLETE HOW-TO
All the details, all your questions, one practical session

Join us for a fast-paced, practical session on Ohio TechCred—a state workforce program designed to help employers receive reimbursement support when employees complete eligible, industry-recognized credentials.

What's In It For You

- TechCred simplified: overview of eligibility, qualifying credentials, and training providers.
- Apply with confidence & capture the full benefit: Step-by-step timeline from choosing credentials to submitting for reimbursement.
- Avoid costly pitfalls: The documentation to keep and the common mistakes that cause delays or denials.
- Get answers fast: Live Q&A and quick consults for your specific use case.
- Leave with a toolkit: Checklist, key dates, and contacts so you can apply confidently after the session.

OUR SPEAKERS

- Jeri Steinbrook**
Workforce Training Coordinator
Center to Advance Manufacturing
- Tim Fitzpatrick, Ed.D.**
Business and Regional Workforce Development Director
Allen Economic Development Group

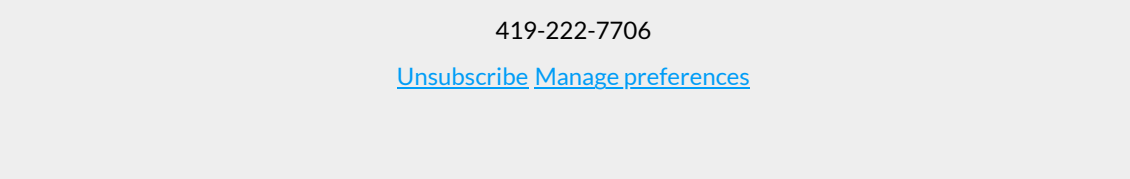
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
THE HUB
207 S. CENTRAL AVE., LIMA
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

TechCred: The Complete How-To — A Practical Session for Ohio Employers

The Center to Advance Manufacturing and the Allen Economic Development Group are hosting a practical workshop on **April 15** in Lima to help employers navigate the Ohio TechCred program. Led by experts Jeri Steinbrook and Tim Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., the session provides a **step-by-step guide to receiving state reimbursement for employee credentialing**. Attendees will learn how to identify qualifying providers, follow correct application timelines, and avoid common documentation pitfalls that lead to funding denials. The event includes a live Q&A session and a provided toolkit to ensure businesses can apply for benefits immediately. This "how-to" session runs from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM at The Hub and requires registration.

If you're interested, you can register by clicking the link below.

[Register Here](#)



Ohio Logistics Groundbreaking Event

GLR is proud to celebrate Ohio Logistics as they break ground on two new 100,000-square-foot facilities in Lima. This milestone marks an exciting step forward in regional growth and continued investment in our community. Join us as we recognize this significant moment for Lima's future.

JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE JOBSOHIO SMALL BUSINESS GRANT

IF YOUR BUSINESS IS IN THE TOP 10 JOBSOHIO SECTORS, PLEASE JOIN US!

April 23, 2026
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
OSU - Lima Campus
Galvin Hall (Cloyd Commons)
4220 Cornelia Drive
Lima, OH 45804

GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Annual revenues between **\$100,000 and \$25 million**
- ✓ Operating in one of JobsOhio's **10 target industries** with primary B2B revenue
- ✓ At least **one year** of operating history
- ✓ Planning an eligible investment that clearly benefits from program support
- ✓ **Payroll or employment must increase by at least 10%** as a result of the project
- ✓ Ability to show the project is **financially feasible**
- ✓ Check the website for eligibility information

WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

- ✓ Up to **\$50,000** in financial assistance for eligible Ohio small businesses
- ✓ Supports business growth, expansion and investment projects
- ✓ Designed to help move projects forward when additional support is needed

JobsOhio Small Business Grant Info Session

Join RGP Northwest Ohio and JobsOhio on April 23, 2026, at the OSU-Lima Campus to learn about the JobsOhio Small Business Grant. This program offers up to \$50,000 in financial assistance to B2B companies within target industries with at least 1 year of operating history and annual revenues between \$100,000 and \$25 million. Eligible projects must demonstrate financial feasibility and result in at least a 10% increase in payroll or employment. Retail and professional services are excluded from this opportunity. If you're interested, please attend the 8:30 AM session to verify your sector's eligibility.

Member Connect Sessions

If you're interested in setting up a time to meet and talk through your membership commitment and any other ideas or visions, feel free to reach out to me directly. I'm happy to coordinate a time that works well for you and make sure we get everything in place.

Thank you for reading this month's edition of **GLR CONNECT**. We're excited about the growth and progress within our community, and we look forward to keeping you updated on future developments. Stay tuned for more exciting news, events, and opportunities to get involved.

If you have any feedback or want to contribute, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We value your input!

Until next time,

DAVE STRATTON
President/CEO

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