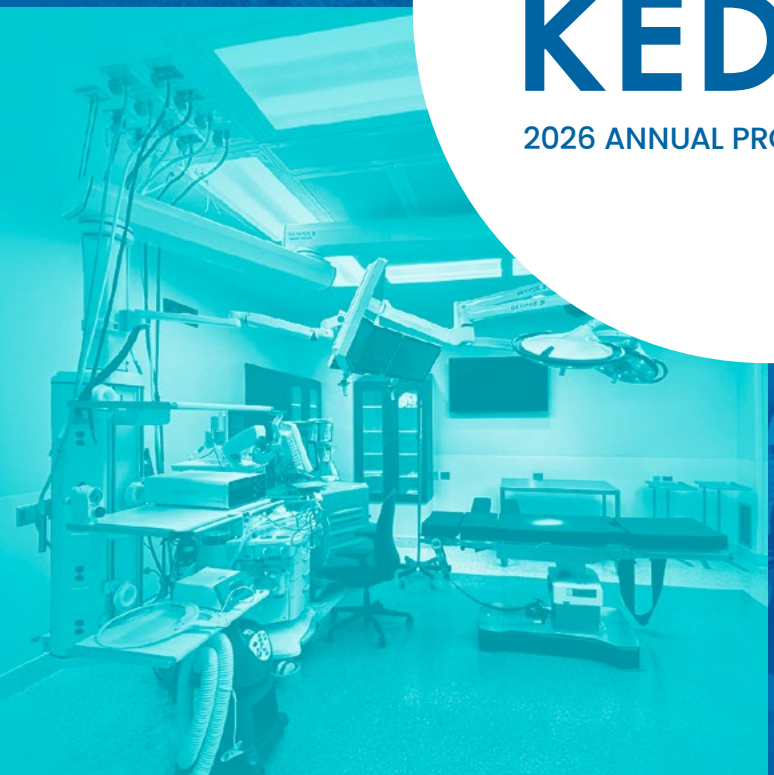
KEDCO

2026 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT



CONNECTING PEOPLE. BUILDING PROJECTS. CREATING POSSIBILITIES.

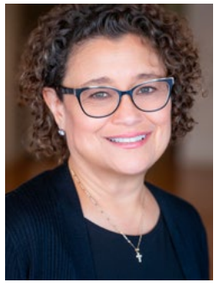
KEDCO connects people, projects, and possibilities to grow lasting prosperity for all of Kosciusko County.

Every partnership we build, every project we support, and every opportunity we help create is rooted in this mission. Together with businesses, communities, investors, educators, and local leaders, we're helping shape a stronger future for Kosciusko County.

Photo by Visit Kosciusko County

2026: A YEAR OF MOMENTUM

A Note from the CEO



What a year it has been for KEDCO and for Kosciusko County.

In 2026, KEDCO continued strengthening its role as the county's economic development engine. We brought people together, supported our businesses, advanced housing and community development, championed our manufacturing and orthopedic sectors, and built partnerships that moved ideas into action.

This year also marked an important milestone as we introduced a new mission and vision that better reflect who we are and where we're headed. KEDCO exists to connect people, projects, and possibilities to grow lasting prosperity for all of Kosciusko County. That mission guides every relationship we build, every project we support, and every opportunity we help create. Our vision, a thriving Kosciusko County where businesses grow, communities prosper, and opportunity is shared by the people who call it home, reminds us why this work matters.

While this report highlights many achievements, our work has always been about more than buildings, investments, or statistics. It's about creating opportunities for people, helping businesses succeed, and building communities where future generations can live, work, and thrive.

As we look ahead, I remain optimistic about the future of Kosciusko County. We are home to innovative businesses, dedicated community leaders, and people who believe in investing in one another. Together, we are building on today's momentum to create an even stronger tomorrow.

Thank you to our investors, partners, volunteers, and community leaders for your continued trust and commitment. The progress celebrated in these pages belongs to all of us, and I'm excited for what we'll accomplish together in the years ahead.

2026 gave us momentum. Now, together, it is time to turn that momentum into Kosciusko County's future.

Peggy Simmons
Chief Executive Officer

INTERACTIONS

REFERRALS & CONNECTIONS

PARTNERSHIPS

OPPORTUNITIES

INVESTMENT & JOBS

THRIVING COMMUNITY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WHY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

Economic development fuels business growth and community vitality. It means building the right environment for businesses to thrive by investing in infrastructure, workforce development, and purposeful allocation of resources. At the same time, it's about enhancing the quality of place with welcoming neighborhoods, vibrant downtowns, educational opportunities, and recreational amenities. It's where economic opportunity meets community well-being.

A YEAR OF MILESTONES

Data throughout report is based on July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

LEADING THROUGH COLLABORATION

In November, Kosciusko County was honored as the 2025 Community of the Year by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, recognizing the county's collaborative leadership, economic growth, and commitment to enhancing quality of life. The recognition affirms the power of partnerships across business, education, local government, and community organizations working together to strengthen our communities and create lasting prosperity for future generations.

A NEW HOME FOR KEDCO

In February, KEDCO celebrated the opening of its new office on North Pointe Drive with a ribbon cutting and community open house. The new space reflects the organization's continued growth and provides a welcoming environment to collaborate with businesses, community partners, and residents working to strengthen Kosciusko County.

CELEBRATING MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE

In December 2025, KEDCO partnered with OrthoWorx and Priority Medical to host the MADE HERE Showcase, bringing together more than 300 manufacturers, suppliers, educators, students, and community leaders to celebrate the innovation that defines the Orthopedic Capital of the World®. The event strengthened industry partnerships while showcasing the companies, products, and talent that make Kosciusko County a global leader in advanced manufacturing.

RECOGNIZED FOR PLACEMAKING

Last fall, the Town of Syracuse received a 2025 Aim Placemaking Award for the revitalization of the Harold Schrock Athletic Complex. The recognition highlights the community's commitment to investing in spaces that enhance quality of life, strengthen local amenities, and support long-term community and economic vitality.

KEDCO by the NUMBERS

20+ Active Business Development and Attraction Projects

553 Conversations With Business and Community Leaders

1,300+ Attendees at KEDCO-Hosted Events

450+ Attendees at MADE HERE and Manufacturing Roundtables

187 Business Professionals connected through Kosciusko Business Socials

35 Community and Business Tours Coordinated for Employers

14 Manufacturing Companies Showcased at MADE HERE

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

Building Relationships. Creating Opportunities.

KOSCIUSKO BUSINESS SOCIAL

What began as Entrepreneur Socials has evolved into the Kosciusko Business Social, one of KEDCO's signature networking programs. Held every other month in communities across Kosciusko County, the popular series brought together nearly 200 local business attendees this year to build meaningful relationships, exchange innovative ideas, and create new economic opportunities that continue to strengthen our growing community and vibrant local economy.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS: ENPAK & ECOCLEAN

Relationships built through KEDCO's business network helped connect EnPak with Ecoclean Inc., a global leader in industrial cleaning technology, leading to the establishment of a joint Clean & Pack Technology Center in Warsaw. The partnership expands advanced manufacturing capabilities for the medical device industry and serves as a powerful example of how collaboration can create new opportunities for local businesses while attracting international investment to Kosciusko County.

KOSCIUSKO MANUFACTURING ROUNDTABLES

Held every other month, the Kosciusko Manufacturing Roundtables bring together local manufacturers to exchange ideas, address industry challenges, and identify opportunities for growth. In partnership with the Kosciusko Chamber of Commerce and OrthoWorx, these events continue to strengthen collaboration within Kosciusko County's manufacturing community.

KOSCIUSKO BUSINESS SOCIAL

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

KOSCIUSKO MANUFACTURING ROUNDTABLES

2026 IMPACT

2 Hire Kosciusko hiring events

161 job seekers in attendance

563 interviews conducted

70 second/ follow-up interviews

25 job offers made

5 confirmed onsite hires

"I appreciate the partnership with KEDCO because it has provided valuable insights into the local job market. Their workforce programs, community connections, and housing resources have strengthened my recruiting efforts and helped me better support both current and prospective employees."

Mena Callen
HR Manager, Maple Leaf Farms, Inc.

GATHERING TALENT LEADERS TOGETHER

KEDCO's Talent Think Tank brings together employers, educators, workforce professionals, and community partners to identify workforce challenges and develop practical solutions. These collaborative conversations strengthen partnerships, spark innovative workforce initiatives, and help ensure employers have access to the talent they need to grow.

IGNITING FUTURE LEADERS

The Orthopedics Capital Foundation, through OrthoWorx, received a $250,000 Ignite Your Future Grant from the Don Wood Foundation to fully fund the next two cohorts of Ivy Tech Community College Kosciusko County's Applied Organizational Leadership Studies program. In partnership with OrthoWorx and Ivy Tech, KEDCO is helping remove financial barriers so 50 emerging leaders can strengthen their leadership skills and advance their careers while meeting the workforce needs of local employers.

TALENT INITIATIVE

Growing Talent. Strengthening Our Workforce.

CONNECTING EMPLOYERS WITH LOCAL TALENT

Hire Kosciusko continues to connect local employers with job seekers through countywide hiring events. In partnership with OrthoWorX, the Kosciusko Chamber of Commerce, the Kosciusko County Community Foundation, the Kosciusko Human Resource Association, and WorkOne Northern Indiana, the initiative helps businesses fill critical positions while connecting individuals with meaningful career opportunities close to home.

RED CARPET TOURS

Community tours showcase the people, places, and quality of life that make Kosciusko County a great place to live and work. These personalized experiences help employers attract and retain talent by giving prospective employees and their families a firsthand look at the community.

SPOTLIGHT RECOGNITION

Jessica Hauck was recognized by the Northern Indiana Workforce Board and WorkOne as the 2025 Community Partner of the Year for her leadership in advancing workforce and housing initiatives throughout Kosciusko County.

EXPANDING AWARENESS OF LOCAL JOBS

Finding qualified employees starts with making opportunities visible. Through KEDCO's updated Career Bridge platform, powered by Rollie Jobs, Kosciusko County employers can automatically display current job openings by simply linking their company website. The streamlined platform makes it easier for local businesses to connect with job seekers while strengthening the county's workforce.

LOCAL CONNECTIONS

HIRE KOSCIUSKO

TALENT THINK TANK

A SNAPSHOT of NEW HOUSING UNITS

485 Housing Units Emerging

135 Housing Units Underway

333 Housing Units Completed

953 Total

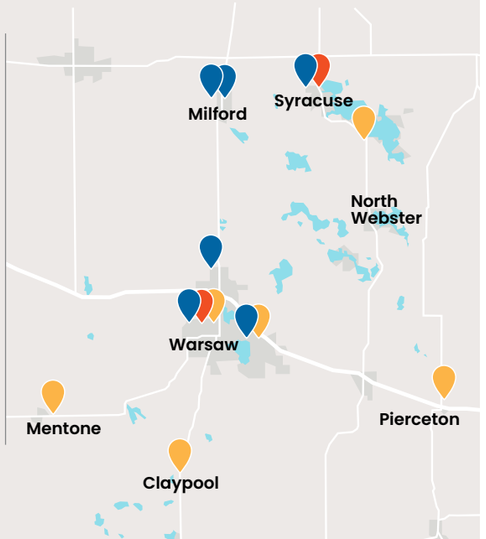
$205.6 MILLION Total Housing Investment

Where are projects happening?

Reflecting project progress from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2026

Project location and status for key:

- **Emerging:** 6 sites
- **Underway:** 2 projects
- **All or some units completed:** 6 projects



Housing remains one of Kosciusko County's greatest opportunities for long-term economic growth.

Working alongside local governments, developers, employers, and community partners, KEDCO helps advance projects that expand housing options and strengthen communities across the county.

HOUSING INITIATIVE

Expanding Housing. Strengthening Communities.

BREAKING GROUND ON MILLWORKS

Construction officially began on Millworks in September 2025, bringing another major housing investment to downtown Warsaw. The $21 million mixed-use development will feature 86 market-rate apartments and commercial space, further expanding housing options while supporting the city's continued growth and revitalization.

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH CLUB 720

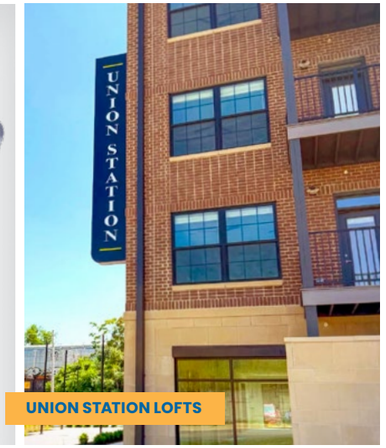
KEDCO partners with Club 720 to connect residents, employers, and community partners with housing resources across Kosciusko County. The Club 720 mobile app makes it easier to explore available housing, discover local communities, and access relocation resources that support workforce attraction and retention.

UNION STATION LOFTS OPENS ITS DOORS

In July 2026, community leaders celebrated the ribbon-cutting of Union Station Lofts, transforming a former industrial site into a vibrant mixed-use development in downtown Warsaw. The project adds 80 market-rate apartments and commercial space, creating new opportunities for residents while contributing to the continued revitalization of the city.

MILLWORKS GROUND BREAKING

CLUB 720 APP



UNION STATION LOFTS

Discover how Kosciusko County is growing through major healthcare investments, a $70 million manufacturing expansion, and community building. Read on to explore how local partnerships drive innovation and strengthen Warsaw's status as the Orthopedic Capital of the World©.

PARKVIEW SURGERY CENTER

AUTOCAM MEDICAL

SLATE AUTO

HABITAT WOMEN BUILD

ADVANCED ORTHOPEDIC CARE, CLOSER TO HOME

Parkview Health and Ortho NorthEast celebrated the opening of the Parkview | ONE Surgery Center in October 2025. The nearly 15,000-square-foot facility expands access to advanced outpatient orthopedic procedures close to home, further strengthening Warsaw's reputation as the Orthopedic Capital of the World®.

AUTOCAM MEDICAL EXPANDS IN WARSAW

In January 2026, Autocam Medical broke ground on a new 100,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in the Warsaw Technology Park. Representing a planned $70 million investment and approximately 250 to 300 high-skill jobs, the project strengthens Kosciusko County's advanced manufacturing ecosystem and reinforces Warsaw's position as the Orthopedic Capital of the World®.

PROGRESS IN ACTION

Milestones That Moved Kosciusko County Forward.

SUPPORTING SLATE AUTO'S GROWTH

As Slate Auto continues establishing operations in Kosciusko County, KEDCO has worked alongside the company to connect its leadership with local partners, workforce resources, utilities, educational institutions, and community organizations. These strategic connections help support a successful launch while strengthening long-term opportunities for the company and the community.

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

As 2025 came to a close, the KEDCO team joined Habitat for Humanity of Kosciusko County's Women Build to help construct affordable housing for a local family. The experience reinforced that thriving communities begin with safe, stable places people can call home.

ADVANCING MEDTECH INNOVATION

In March 2026, KEDCO joined industry leaders at the Plug and Play MedTech Expo, where startups, investors, manufacturers, and innovators came together to explore the future of medical technology. The event showcased Kosciusko County's leadership as the Orthopedic Capital of the World® while strengthening connections that drive innovation and future investment.

OUR COUNTY GOVERNMENT BRANDED

KEDCO helped facilitate the development of a unified brand for Kosciusko County Government. The new identity reflects a shared commitment to supporting opportunities for local people, businesses and communities to thrive while providing a consistent, powerful way to tell the county's story.

PLUG & PLAY

COUNTY GOVERNMENT BRANDING

STONEHENGE GOLF COURSE

PAR-KAN

WINONA LAKE PARK GROUNDBREAKING

CHAMPION BREAKFAST

PRESERVING A COMMUNITY ASSET

In 2026, the Kosciusko Community Development Corporation (KCDC), an affiliate of KEDCO, completed the sale of Stonehenge Golf Course to longtime operators Denny and Cindy Hepler. The successful transition returned the course to local ownership, sparked continued investment in the property, and positioned Stonehenge to host the 2027 Indiana State Open while preserving a valued quality-of-place asset that supports tourism, residential growth, and the long-term vitality of Winona Lake.

EXPANDING MANUFACTURING CAPACITY

Early in 2026, PAR-KAN enhanced its manufacturing capabilities with an automated fiber laser cutting system, increasing production capacity while improving efficiency and workplace ergonomics. Supported through a Purdue MEP grant opportunity promoted by KEDCO, the investment strengthens the company's ability to support customers, create new business opportunities, and continue growing in Kosciusko County.

INVESTING IN QUALITY OF PLACE

The ALL IN Kosciusko initiative, supported by funding from Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Office of Indiana Regional Initiatives (OIRI), helped make the Community Fieldhouse and Winona Lake Bike Park possible. Community leaders celebrated the groundbreaking of both projects, marking another step forward in enhancing quality of place across Kosciusko County. These investments demonstrate how collaboration and strategic funding can create lasting community assets that benefit residents for generations.

INVESTMENT CHAMPION BREAKFAST

Each year, KEDCO recognizes investors and partners whose support helps move economic development forward across Kosciusko County. Interested in learning more about becoming a KEDCO investor? Contact our team to attend the 2027 Investment Champion Breakfast and discover how you can help shape the county's future.

OUR TEAM

Peggy Simmons
Chief Executive Officer

Dawn Wilkinson
Director of Projects & Operations

Kyrie' Maierle
Marketing & Communications Manager

Jessica Hauck
Housing & Talent Manager

Emilie Macias-Chavez
Administrative Assistant

Kayla Bailey
Project Coordinator

Suzie Light
Leadership Partner

Erin Whittle
CFO, Whittle Strategic Accounting

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Network Partners Group

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T.L. Jackson Construction

Frank Levinson
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Jim Lancaster
Town of Winona Lake

Max Maile
Pivot Health Advisors

Eric Meyer
Zimmer Biomet

Jan Orban
Brian Peterson Real Estate

Donald Robinson-Gay
Lake City Bank

Craig Snow
Cedar Holdings

John Warren
Crossroads Bank

Jack Wilhite
Warsaw City Council

Ryan Zimmerman
POLYWOOD

MANY THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

2026 KEDCO Sustaining Partner Investors

Lake City Bank Member FDIC
POLYWOOD
PRECISION MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES
ZIMMER BIOMET Moving You Forward.

2026 KEDCO Impact Partner Investors

Autocam Medical
CORE Mechanical
G&G Hauling and Excavating
KREMC
NIPSCO
Northwest Bank
Wabash Valley Power
Winona Powder Coating

2026 KEDCO Annual Celebration Gold Sponsors

Autocam Medical
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Zimmer Biomet

KEDCO
KOSCIUSKO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

INDIANA CHAMBER
2025
COMMUNITY
OF THE YEAR
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KEDCO connects people, projects, and possibilities to grow lasting prosperity for all of Kosciusko County.
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2194 N Pointe Dr,
Warsaw, IN 46582
kosciuskoedc.com