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or "local new wealth generators".

Valley Vision
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEWIS-CLARK VALLEY

Mission Statement:

Actively attract and expand primary sector business that are new wealth generators that enhance the quality of life in the Lewis-Clark Valley.

The Holiday Season is upon us. Thanks to our new investors that drive success of economic development for the L-C Valley, and to many of our existing investors that have increased their contribution in the past year.

This year the Board has launched a new Strategic Plan, which is rapidly gaining traction. This Plan includes a Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) Program, which will be launched soon...

Business Expansion and Retention Program (BEAR)

The condition and overall health of the Lewis-Clark Valley's economy is dependent upon a well-organized economic development effort that adheres to best practices in the profession. The existing business community is the backbone of local communities. Therefore, a broad-based understanding of business' specialty manufacturing needs and the discovery of the types of assistance that can be provided, is one of the main functions of Valley Vision Inc.

Through a formalized interview process, the BEAR Volunteer team will meet with business leadership to discuss any expansion, capital investment, or job creation needs. The data collected through these interviews will be utilized to provide assistance through readily available programs and resources or will be utilized to implement new programs.

Step 1 – Recruit BEAR Program Volunteers and Provide Training

Tactics:

- Recruit and organize the BEAR team to strategically utilize community leadership for long term success.
- Train BEAR volunteers on program goals and confidentiality.
- Match BEAR volunteers with specific businesses for one-on-one interviews.

Step 2 – Conduct BEAR Interviews

Tactics:

- Schedule and conduct one-on-one confidential BEAR Meetings w/ primary sector Industries.
- Work on project teams on BEAR issues (continuous).
- Sustain leadership team.
- Update Valley Vision Board and plan to sustain BEAR Program with the following goals.
- Review warning flags for immediate response.

Step 3 – Evaluate Results and Prepare Budget

Tactics:

- Tabulate and analyze survey data.
- Develop short- and long-term planning.
- Write summary report based on data collected.
- Evaluate results.

Step 4 - Develop BEAR Action Plan

Tactics:

- Conduct BEAR Team retreat to set priorities on systemic issues.
- Respond to individual concerns.
- Analyze strengths and weaknesses.
- Design priority projects.

Step 5 - Communicate to Stakeholders

Tactics:

- Communicate BEAR successes to community stakeholders.
- Communicate BEAR findings to media in conjunction with the developed Valley Vision program plan.
- Release results to BEAR businesses and community stakeholders.

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