



PROGRAM DAY TOPICS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2026 - DESTINATION MANSFIELD, COMMUNITY BRANDING, COMMUNITY SCAVENGER HUNT

NOVEMBER 12, 2026 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Learning Objectives

Recommended Speakers

Economic forces shaping Richland County's growth: Business attraction, entrepreneurship, proximity to I-71, and the impact of the 179th Cyberspace Wing's new mission.

Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development: **Jessica Gribben** (jgribben@chooserichland.com) | **Barrett Thomas** (bthomas@chooserichland.com) | *Braintree Business Development Center:* **Bob Cohen** (bcohen@braintreepartners.org) | *179th Cyberspace Wing:* **Walt Borowicz** (walt8169@gmail.com)

Infrastructure and community development priorities: Aging systems, downtown Mansfield expansion, and key corridor projects such as Miracle Mile.

Mansfield Mayor: **Jodie Perry** (jperry@ci.mansfield.oh.us) | *Mansfield Public Works Director:* **Louis Andres** (landres@ci.mansfield.oh.us) | *Downtown Mansfield Inc.:* **Jennifer Kime** (jenniferk@downtownmansfield.com)

Strategies that strengthen community engagement and trust: Long-term planning and transparent decision-making for development efforts.

Richland County Regional Planning: **Jotika Shetty** (jshetty@rcrpc.org) | *Shelby CIC,* **Cody Albert** (Cody.Albert@ohiohealth.com) | *Ontario CIC,* **Amy Hiner** (amyhiner@live.com)

Richland County's parks as an economic development asset: Investment, new amenities, accessibility, and year-round programming that boost recreation and quality of life (pools, splash pads, and affordable activities for kids and teens).

Destination Mansfield/Richland County: **Lee Tasseff** (ltasseff@destinationmansfield.com) | *Jordan Tackett:* **Richland County Park District** (jtackett@richlandcountyoh.gov) | *Mansfield Parks:* **Mike Woogerd** (mwoogerd@mansfieldohio.gov) |



PROGRAM DAY TOPICS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2026 - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Learning Objectives

Recommended Speakers

Workforce dynamics shaping Richland County's future:

Talent attraction and retention, aging workforce trends, competitive wages, and alignment between employers and education partners.

Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development and Area 10 Workforce Board: **Clint Knight** (cknight@richlandareachamber.com) | *Large Employer OhioHealth:* **Kaitlyn McFarland** (Kaitlyn.McFarland@ohiohealth.com) | *Medium-Sized Employer Schmidt Security Pro:* **Brian Schmidt** (Bschmidt@schmidtsecurity.com); *Small Employer Hamilton Insurance:* **Neil Hamilton** (neil@hamiltonins.net)

Barriers that limit workforce participation:

Childcare affordability, transportation gaps, and the community support systems needed to help residents enter and stay in the workforce.

Women's Fund, Richland County Foundation: **Amy Hiner** (amyhiner@live.com) | *Richland County Transit:* **Jean Taddie** (jtaddie@rcrpc.org) | *YWCA Childcare Resource and Referral:* **Susan Martin** (smartin@ywcanwo.org) | *Review Richland Source reporting:* "It Takes a Village."

Educational challenges and opportunities across the talent pipeline: Attainment gaps and legislative impacts on public schools

Ohio School Board Central Region: **Aaron Hinchliffe** (ahinchliffe@ohioschoolboards.org) | *Mansfield City Schools Superintendent:* **Stan Jefferson** (jefferson.stan@mansfieldschools.org) | *Ontario Local Schools:* **Keith Strickler** (strickler.keith@olsohio.org)

Region's readiness to support long-term workforce growth:

Training capacity, credential pathways, new and expanding industries, adult education, and the role of educational partners such as Pioneer, NCSC, and OSU in preparing students for high-demand careers.

Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center: **Bethany Rachel** (rachel.bethany@moesc.net) | *Hess Industries:* **Mark Hess** (mhess@hessindltd.com) | *Madison Career Center:* **Sonja Pluck** (spluck@madisonrams.net) | *OSU-Mansfield:* **Veronna Drane** (drane.12@osu.edu) | *North Central State College:* **Ellie Jindra** (ejindra@ncstatecollege.edu) | *Pioneer Career & Technology Center:* **Clay Frye** (frye.clay@pioneerctc.edu)



PROGRAM DAY TOPICS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

JANUARY 14, 2027 - Public Safety

Learning Objectives

Recommended Speakers

Interconnected factors in community safety and shared problem-solving: Gun violence, crime, METRICH, fire risks, emergency response capacity, courts, and correctional systems.

City of Mansfield: **Police Chief Jason Bammann** (jbammann@mansfieldohio.gov) | *City of Mansfield:* **Fire Chief Dan Crow** (dcrow@mansfieldohio.gov) | *EMA director:* **Sarah Potes** (spotes@richlandcountyoh.gov) | *Sheriff:* **Steve Sheldon** (ssheldon@richlandcountyoh.gov) or *Jail Administrator:* Dave Blake (dblake@richlandcountyoh.gov) | *Prosecutor:* **Jodie Schumacher** (jschumacher@richlandcountyoh.gov) | *Mansfield Correctional Institution:* **Warden Harold May** (harold.may@drc.ohio.gov)

Observe the day-to-day operations behind community safety through guided tours of the Mansfield Crime Lab, Richland County Emergency Management Agency, and Mansfield Correctional Institution, connecting the morning's discussion to how these agencies actually function.

Mansfield Crime Lab: **Dawn Fryback** (dfryback@ci.mansfield.oh.us) | *EMA director:* **Sarah Potes** (spotes@richlandcountyoh.gov) | *Mansfield Correctional Institution:* Warden Harold May (harold.may@drc.ohio.gov)

Prevention and Reentry Strategies: Reduce violence and increase safety through mental health supports, community-based interventions, and reentry supports.

Richland County Common Pleas Court: **Judge Brent N. Robinson** (419.774.5570) | *Mental Health & Recovery Services Board:* **Carey Vogt** (rcmhb@rcmhb.org) | *NECIC:* **Matthew Benko-Scruggs** (Matthew@necic-ohio.org) | *Domestic Violence Shelter:* **Taylor Sausser** (tsausser@thedvshelter.com) | *Ohio Office of Re-entry:* **Richard Schmidt** (richard.schmidt@drc.ohio.gov) | *ManCI OhioMeansJobs:* **Stephen Parsons** (Stephen.Parsons@drc.ohio.gov) | *Rubies Women's Group:* **Candace Watson-Cole** (candace@rubiesoutreach31.com)

Youth Engagement: Engaging schools, youth-serving organizations, local leaders, and residents to create safer environments for young people.

Mansfield City Schools: **Andrea Moyer** (moyer.andrea@mansfieldschools.org) | *Mid-Ohio Youth Mentoring:* **Jim Nicholson** (jim@midohioyouthmentoring.com) | *Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY):* **Tracee Anderson** (andersont@cacyohio.org) | *Richland County Youth & Family Council:* TBD



PROGRAM DAY TOPICS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2027 - SIMULATED SOCIETY WITH LEADERSHIP ON THE MOVE

MARCH 11, 2027 - RICHLAND NEWHOPE'S DISABILITY AWARENESS DAY

APRIL 8, 2027 - HOUSING

Learning Objectives

Recommended Speakers

Land-use planning, zoning policies, and regulatory decisions: where and how housing can be built, with attention to accessibility standards, mixed-use development, and opportunities for inclusive neighborhood design.

Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development: **Jessica Gribben** (jgribben@chooserichland.com) | *Richland County Regional Planning:* **Jotika Shetty** (jshetty@rcrpc.org)

Current and emerging housing development efforts, such as downtown Mansfield revitalization and mixed-use projects, to assess their potential to expand availability while maintaining affordability for downtown employees, young professionals, and local residents.

Downtown Forward - Richland County Foundation: **Allie Watson** (awatson@rcfoundation.org) | *Blue Door Development Group:* **Candace Patrick** (candisspatrick@gmail.com) | *Walker Woods Development:* **Jerry Holden** (jerry@theholdenagencyre.com) | *Urban Meadows:* **Sam Shrock** (740-501-4408)

Affordability and accessibility for vulnerable populations, including people with disabilities, senior citizens, individuals experiencing homelessness, and low-income residents.

Synergy Property Solutions: **Larry Merwine** (Larry@synergypropertiesohio.com) | *Richland Newhope:* **Rodney Willis** (rwillis@rnewhope.org) | *Area Agency on Aging:* **Duana Patton** (dpatton@aaa5ohio.org) | *Mansfield Metropolitan Housing Authority:* **Steve Andrews** (sandrews@ncohiohousing.org) | *The Provident Companies:* **Robert Bender** (rbender@pmiohio.com) | *Wayfinders Ohio:* **Miles Parsons** (miles@wayfindersohio.org) | *Habitat for Humanity:* **Aubri Them** (Aubri@habitatofrcc.org)

Community-wide strategies for expanding safe, attainable housing: cross-sector collaboration, investment in supportive services, and approaches that address the root causes of homelessness and poverty.

United Way of Richland County: **Dan Varn** (dvarn@unitedwayofrichlandcounty.org) | *Catholic Charities:* **Brian Hunt** (bhunt@toledodiocese.org) | *Ohio Heartland Community Action Commission:* **Joe Devany** (JoeD@ohcac.org)



PROGRAM DAY TOPICS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

MAY 13, 2026 - HEALTHCARE & WELLNESS

Learning Objectives

Recommended Speakers

Community-wide health systems focusing on prevention, early intervention, and accessible primary care that address both immediate needs and long-term solutions for citizens.

OhioHealth : **Dr. Curt Gingrich** (Admin -Beth.Fleiner@ohiohealth.com);
Avita Health System: **Jerry Morasko** (jmorasko@avitahs.org); *Third Street Family Health Services*: **Peggy Anderson** (andersonp@thirdstreetfamily.org) | *Richland Public Health*: **Julie Chaya** (jchaya@richlandhealth.org) | *Nationwide Children's Mansfield Close To Home Center*: **Shaun Coffman** (shaun.coffman@nationwidechildrens.org)

Workplace wellness: psychoeducation, burnout prevention, communication styles, and prioritizing employee mental-health needs.

OhioHealth : **Jennifer Alt** (Jennifer.Alt@ohiohealth.com)

Community health partnerships supporting long-term community well-being.

Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board: **Carey Vogt** (rcmh@rcmh.org) | *Catalyst Life Services* : **Laura Montgomery** (Laura@catalystlifeservices.org) | *NAMI Richland County* : **Aubrie Hall** (aubrie@namirc.org) | *Community Health Access Project (CHAP)*: **Brice Eyerly** (brice@chaphub.org)

The root causes and impacts of food insecurity: transportation barriers, limited access to affordable, healthy food, and the connections between nutrition, mental health, education, and overall quality of life.

Catholic Charities (H.O.P.E. Pantry): **Brian Hunt** (bhunt@toledodiocese.org) | *Salvation Army Mansfield Corps* : **Majors Robert and Karen Bender** (robert.bender@use.salvationarmy.org) (karen.bender@use.salvationarmy.org) | *NECIC*: **Matthew Benko-Scruggs** (Matthew@necic-ohio.org)

JUNE 10, 2027 - CLOSING RETREAT