# **EDALC** 2023-24 Annual Report

### **Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County**



### 2023-24 - Growing to Serve Lincoln County Better

In March of 2024, EDALC celebrated its **30th birthday** as Lincoln County's dedicated economic development organization. Over those thirty years, we've only had three Executive Directors - not bad consistency for a little non-profit! This year, we've grown our staff to four, with the addition of Stacie Keating as our Organizational Coordinator. Lincoln County has once again been selected as a **Rural Opportunity Initiative** partner, this time in the Launch Stage. We've

also granted out over \$300,000, coast-wide, to innovative organizations in support of **Oregon's Blue Economy**. We also worked with the SBDC to deliver a celebratory *Shark Tank* style pitch event for the **Youth Entrepreneurship Program**. We are proud to be your trusted partner and collaborator in local economic development!



Paul Schuytema Executive Director

### **Our Mission**

To deliver economic development services that facilitate the creation, growth and retention of Lincoln County businesses.



## Who Is EDALC?

We are the **Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County**, a 501 (c)(6) non-profit economic development organization. We work every day to attract, support and grow businesses in Lincoln County to ensure community-wide economic well-being and an improved quality of life.

Day-to-day, we work to problem solve and connect businesses with the information and the resources they need to succeed. We collaborate with other organizations on projects that enhance our local and regional economic vitality and diversity. **Our organization has served Lincoln County for over 30 years** and is governed by a passionate and driven local Board of Directors.

## **Moving the Needle - Recent Progress**

- Awarded second two-year **Rural Opportunity Initiative** grant from Business Oregon to support our local entrepreneurial ecosystem for the Launce Phase (we are one of 19 ROI communities in Oregon)
- Managed a \$1M Congressionally Directed Spending grant to help grow Oregon's Blue Economy, coast-wide over \$500,000 paid out thus far
- Administered and managed the 2023-24 Lincoln County's **Community and Economic Development Grant Program** (and presented a grant writing workshop to support applicants)
- · Supported local and regional efforts in Broadband infrastructure and digital equity projects
- Created a first-of-its-kind Community Connector position (funded by the Ford Family Foundation)
- Represented Lincoln County in regional efforts, including the **Cascades West Economic Development District**, and currently servie as chair of the regional ED district during the CEDS strategic planning process
- Managed our Lincoln County Enterprise Zone business incentive program
- Maintained Oregon Prospector database of local commercial properties for sale and lease
- Created our annual Top Lincoln County Employers report
- Participated in and supported numerous community projects, including **ART Toledo** and the SBDC's **Youth Entrepreneurship Program**
- Developed and run numerous community events, such as the Lincoln County Economic Summit, FailFest, EDALC/YBEF Annual Meeting
- Produced supporting videos for Art, Oysters & Brews, the Youth Entrepreneurship Program, DEQ Source Water Protection workshops

"EDALC's Executive Director's professional experience and outside perspective have created a stronger connection between City and County Economic Development efforts. EDALC is a vital partner in my work to brainstorm, leverage capacity and further shared objectives for our community as a whole."



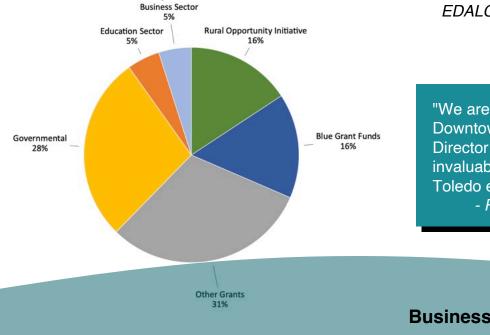
- Alison Robertson, Director, Economic Development, Lincoln City

## On the Horizon in 2024-25

- Grow and support a vibrant and resilient Lincoln County Entrepreneurial Ecosystem
- Support local and coast-wide **Blue Economy** efforts and manage multiple Blue projects and build a tristate *Blue Innovation Partnership* with Alaksa and Washington
- Support local **Broadband projects** as historic levels of infrastructure funding comes to Oregon
- Support the growth of our local Creative Economy and local Arts and Cultural districts
- Manage key data projects such as the Economic Report update and Economic Vitality Report Card
- · Begin work on deveoping a professional and sustainable Lincoln County Business Incubator
- · Continue our local and regional leadership in partnership with other economic support organizations

### **Organizational Funding**

EDALC has always been supported by **local and regional dollars**. Over the last two years, we have diversified our funding sources to include both the private and public sectors, as well as bringing in additional grant dollars. We welcome investors at all levels to help support our efforts and our local economy.



EDALC's Annual Operations Budget: \$325,000.00

"We are working with EDALC on our Downtown Revitalization and Executive Director Paul has been a joy and an invaluable asset in developing our ART Toledo endeavor!"

- Rod Cross, Mayor, City of Toledo

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"The work of the Economic Development Alliance is pacesetting for our local economic development ecosystem. EDALC is steadily increasing its involvement in, and support of, other critical organizations in the area. Paul and his team became more accessible to the community with the opening of the new "Blue Economy Starts Here" offices at OCCC's South County Center in Waldport – an arrangement that also allowed for closer coordination between EDALC, the SBDC, and OCCC."



- Dave Price, VP of Engagement and Entrepreneurship, OCCC

#### **EDALC BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2023-24**

Robert Cowen, Ph.D., President, Associate VP for Research and Operations, Hatfield Marine Science Center Carrie Lewis, Vice-President, CEO, Oregon Coast Aquarium Birgitte Ryslinge, Ph.D, Past President, President, Oregon Coast Community College Lesley Ogden, M.D., Secretary, CEO, Samaritan Lincoln County Hospitals Michael Smith, Treasurer, VP and Business Banking Relationship Manager, Umpgua Bank Majalise Tolan, Ph.D., At Large, Superintendent, Lincoln County School District Kaety Jacobson, Ex Officio, Commissioner, Lincoln County **Tracy Bailey**, Senior Planner, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Lorna Davis, Global Sales Manager, Travel Oregon Bryan Fitzsimmons, Owner, Fitzsimmons CPA Doug Holbrook, Assistant Counsel, Lincoln County Jason Holland, Executive Director, Oregon Coast Council for the Arts Paula Miranda, General Manager, Port of Newport Gregory Price, Director, Small Business Development Center of Lincoln County Linda Roy, Owner and Broker, Lincoln City Realty

#### **EDALC STAFF**

Executive Director Paul Schuytema O: 541.867.8579 C: 541.961.8800



E: paul@businesslincolncounty.com

Organizational Coordinator Stacie Keating O: 541.867.8545



E: stacie@businesslincolncounty.com

**Project Manager** Sarah Buddingh O: 541.867.8567 E: sarah@businesslincolncounty.com

Community Connector Leslie Palotas C: 541.264.6122



E: leslie@businesslincolncounty.com

Office: 3120 Crestline Drive, Waldport, OR 97394 Mail: PO Box 716, Newport, OR 97365

### www.BusinessLincoInCounty.com