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# **INSIDE PASSAGE**







# **TOTEM**





Bartlett Regional Hospital





MEMBER FDIC

### JUNEAU ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OVERVIEW

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### **MISSION**

The Juneau Economic Development Council fosters a healthy and sustainable economic climate in Juneau and throughout Southeast Alaska. In collaboration with other organizations, the council implements initiatives to maintain, expand, and create economic opportunities.

#### **GOALS**

- Strengthen Juneau's economy
- · Develop a regionally competitive economy
- Bring innovative economic development approaches to our region and state
- · Increase Juneau's desirability as a place to live and work

## **JEDC PROGRAMS**

The Juneau Economic Development Council partners with many private, federal, state and local organizations and agencies to carry out the following programs:

#### SpringBoard Programs

### **Technology Transfer**

SpringBoard is an Alaska-based program that helps transfer and commercialize U.S. Department of Defense technologies. SpringBoard staff identify and screen technologies for use in the private sector and look for technologies that can benefit Alaskan industry. Our Technology Transfer program also partners with the USDA Agricultural Research Service and the University of Faitboanks Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization.

### Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

SpringBoard's STEM AK program provides educational enrichment opportunities for K-12 students and professional development for teachers to better prepare young people for the future. For example, JEDC afters The Saturday Thing in Juneau and implements FIRST Robotics in twenty-five school districts around the state.

### Southeast Cluster Initiative

Partnering with the USDA in 2011, JEDC assembled and facilitated the work of four Cluster Working Groups in three established and one emerging industry sector: Ocean Products; Forest Products; Visitor Products; and Renewable Energy. In 2012, Mining Services and Supplies was added to the Cluster Initiative. The process is designed to remove barriers and make connections that will allow for growth in jobs and businesses in the specific greats.

### Affordable Housing

JEDC serves as an important point of contact for public and community groups working to make Juneau's housing costs more affordable. We also support the Juneau Homeless Coalition.

#### Other JEDC Services

JEDC programming staff work on issues of importance to our community, region, and state. Current efforts include:

- Research & Analysis (including Annual Economic Indicators);
- Southeast Alaska Revolving Loan Fund, providing "gap financing" to new and expanding businesses;
- Business Consulting Service, giving small businesses low-cost access to highly qualified business experts;
- Choose Juneau, promoting Juneau as an attractive location for business, government, and retirement.
- Wood Products Development Service, offering statewide technical assistance for rural small businesses wishing to develop woody biomass fuels;
- Sunday Market and Local Food Fest, promoting locally grown produce and handmade products - Alaska Grown;
- Downtown Revitalization, supporting three engaged working groups in the Downtown Revitalization effort;
- Maritime Festival, Celebrating Juneau's History, Culture and Commerce;
- Junior Achievement, empowering Juneau's young people to own their economic success.



October 2012

# Dear Readers,

The Juneau Economic Development Council (JEDC) is pleased to make our 2012 edition of local and regional economic indicators available to you. We thank those groups and individuals that have shared information with us to make this publication possible, with special thanks to the Alaska Department of Labor. We are also extremely grateful to our corporate sponsors and the CBJ, whose generous support enables us to create this publication.

This year, JEDC celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community and the region. From its inception, JEDC's mission has been to foster a healthy and sustainable economic climate in Juneau and Southeast Alaska. In Juneau, JEDC hosts the Juneau Maritime Festival and is engaged in downtown revitalization, affordable housing issues, access to child-care and transportation for low-income workers. JEDC supports entrepreneurship through programs like Junior Achievement in our schools, offers business-consulting services and makes loans to small businesses.

Regionally, JEDC developed and supports the Southeast Alaska Cluster Initiative, which has identified and began addressing key issues in the mining services, oceans, visitor and renewable energy industries. We work statewide with the Alaska Forward Initiative to improve the competitiveness of Alaska's industries. JEDC delivers STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education opportunities to over 20 school districts. JEDC's technology transfer program helps Alaska's private sector access new technologies and innovations developed in taxpayer-funded federal laboratories.

We welcome your ideas for economic development in Juneau and the region, and how our organization can better serve the community. Please call or email us (bholst@jedc.org) to become part of the conversation and sign up for JEDC News to learn about our efforts. Visit us at JEDC.org.

Regards,

Kurt Fredriksson

Chair, Board of Directors

Brian Holst

Executive Director, IEDC

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