

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Loreli Cappel, Senior Project Director
[\(805\) 788-2015](tel:(805)788-2015) info@sloevc.org

Economic Vitality Corporation
of San Luis Obispo County
501(c)(3) non-profit
www.sloevc.org info@sloevc.org

Economic Vitality Corporation Celebrates 25 years of Serving San Luis Obispo County Businesses and Community

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. – October 7, 2019 – ECONOMIC VITALITY CORPORATION (EVC), a non-profit economic development organization serving San Luis Obispo County, celebrated its 25th year. The EVC, a public-private partnership, works to stimulate the economic vitality of the county by increasing investment in the community, promoting job creation and fostering the start-up, growth and attraction of businesses. During a recent celebration at Biddle Ranch Winery located in the Edna Valley near San Luis Obispo, 35 Board of Directors, over 100 sponsors, and partner organizations gathered to commemorate this 25-year milestone. Thanks to guest speakers 4th District County Supervisor Adam Hill, Dave Jensen Senior Vice President of ACI JET, and Donavan Johnson of SkyWest Airlines who announced the growth of their operations at the San Luis Obispo County Airport. Both organizations aim to hire a number of aircraft mechanics to allow them expand their companies and services. The EVC is helping to coordinate a local effort to grow a future workforce through an Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) Mechanic training school, which could address our local need as well as the nationwide shortage of these specialized mechanics.

Board of Directors Chair, Jolie Ditmore, commented, “We are excited about the future and embrace our vision to make SLO County as attractive to do business, as it is to live. By focusing on the long-term health of the community and businesses, we can grow and diversify the local economy in a balanced way so that young people will not have to leave the region for better career opportunities elsewhere. This is the best litmus test of our work. Despite the strong economy, the region is facing long-term challenges that impact our region’s competitiveness. As the saying goes: Dig your well before you’re thirsty.”

The EVC recently completed its strategic plan for the next three years and is actively working to align businesses to resources needed to choose, grow and thrive in San Luis Obispo County.

Michael Manchak, EVC’s President and CEO, said “As the voice of the business community throughout the County, our resources help grow jobs and address local challenges to foster a positive business climate. The thousands of clients over the years is a testament to the region’s entrepreneurial spirit”. Manchak also stated, “Through our key initiatives, the EVC is helping to address the challenges of workforce housing, workforce development to retain and attract talent, assure small businesses have access to capital, and advocate for infrastructure such as the airport. All of this requires a proactive commitment and strong partnerships.”

ABOUT US

Established in 1994, the **Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC)** serves all of San Luis Obispo County as a non-profit economic development organization. We are committed to stimulating the region's economic vitality by creating jobs, fostering investment, and promoting business. (805) 788-2012
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