

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Growing Montcalm  
since 1995



# SUPPORTING CURRENT AND FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR MONTCALM COUNTY COMMUNITIES.

To our investors and partners,

Over four years ago, the Montcalm Economic Alliance formed a strategic partnership with The Right Place to drive long-term job creation, investment, and overall economic prosperity in Montcalm County. Since then, the Alliance has greatly increased its capabilities, and become an even more valuable resource to the Montcalm County business community.

The Alliance provides Montcalm County businesses with the tools, resources, and support they need to grow. In 2018, the Alliance was responsible for several notable business retention, expansion, and attraction projects, including:

**FOREMOST FARMS** - \$58 Million Capital Investment, 33 New Jobs

**WEST MICHIGAN COMPOUNDING** - \$6 Million Capital Investment, 33 New Jobs

**PARKER HANNIFIN** - \$5.1 Million Capital Investment, 46 New Jobs

**LARRY'S TIRE** - \$1 Million Capital Investment, 30 Retained Jobs, 10 New Jobs

**GREENVILLE CABINET** - \$850,000 Capital Investment

**FARM COUNTY CHEESE HOUSE** - 17 Retained Jobs

In addition to directly supporting the business community, the Alliance also works on long-term initiatives to create strong foundations for sustainable economic growth over time. Discover Manufacturing, an initiative to reach out to high school students and assist them with career exploration, saw a turnout of 660 students in 2018. Year-over-year, this program has grown exponentially to impact new generations of local talent. The Alliance also facilitates the Ionia-Montcalm Manufacturer's Council, which works to advance manufacturing success in the region.

## The need for community support

The Alliance is a public-private partnership, and receives financial support from both communities and businesses. In order to keep this partnership active and allow economic development resources to continue flowing into the county, we need your support. We ask that you join our efforts to sustain this regional partnership, and work together with us to create the next generation of economic growth in our community.



**Rob Spohr, President**  
Vice President of Student & Academic Affairs  
Montcalm Community College



**Kathy Jo Vanderlaan**  
Business Development Coordinator  
Montcalm Economic Alliance  
The Right Place, Inc.

# 2018

# HIGHLIGHTS



Foremost Farms

## FOREMOST FARMS

After three years of work, the Alliance, in partnership with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and the City of Greenville announced the expansion of Foremost Farm's dairy-processing facility in Greenville. The expansion, which took place on a 96-acre site in Greenville Industrial Park, resulted in 33 new jobs and \$58 million in capital investment.



Parker Hannifin

## PARKER HANNIFIN

This year, Parker Hannifin, the global leader in motion and control technologies, decided to expand its plastic injection operations in Lakeview. The Alliance, in partnership with the MEDC and the Village of Lakeview, worked with the company to make the project possible. As a result, the company will be investing \$5.1 million into the facility and creating 46 new jobs.



Discover Manufacturing  
at Lakeland Mills

## DISCOVER MANUFACTURING

Discover Manufacturing efforts increased once again this year, with 660 area students touring 17 manufacturing facilities in Montcalm County. The Alliance hosted the weeklong event, collaborating with 10 local high schools to provide students with a first-hand look at modern manufacturing career opportunities. The program, which began in 2014 with 80 students from Greenville High School, has reached more than 1000 students throughout the county, allowing the next generation of local talent to explore new possibilities and career paths.

**\$771,222**

Worker Training Dollars

**457**

Company Assists

**\$70,902,000**

In Capital Investment

**122**

New & Retained Jobs

**\$4,812,800**

In New & Retained Payroll

**6**

Projects

## INVESTORS

- Howard City DDA
- Eightcap, Inc.
- Fairplains Township
- Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health
- Montcalm Community College
- Sidney Bank
- City of Stanton
- Greenville Tool and Die
- Montcalm ISD
- Spectrum Health United Hospital
- Montcalm Commission on Aging
- Mid-MI District Health Dept
- United Way Montcalm-Ionia Counties
- Consumers Energy
- Greenville Public Schools
- Montcalm Township
- Carson City
- Commercial Bank
- S. Michael and Cheryl Scott
- Greenville Area Community Foundation
- Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Montcalm County
- Chemical Bank
- Meijer

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- **President**  
Mr. Rob Spohr
- **Vice President**  
Mr. Dave Seppala
- **Treasurer**  
Ms. Gae Wolfe
- **At Large Members**  
Mr. George Bosanic  
Mr. Michael Falcon  
Mr. Bruce Noll  
Ms. Harmony Nowlin
- **Fundraising/  
Special Projects**  
Mr. Josh Gibbs
- **The Right Place, Inc.**  
Ms. Therese Thill
- **Montcalm County**  
Mr. Bob Clingenpeel

