

"The Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce will represent business and promote economic growth."



GRAND JUNCTION AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWSLETTER

Your Voice of Local Business
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO



“...gain
invaluable
insight and
a renewed
appreciation for
your hometown
”

Chamber's Leadership Program Adds Value to Companies & Communities

The Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce championed the creation of a local leadership training program for mid to upper-level business managers over 28 years ago. The purpose of the Chamber offering such a program was to encourage business participation on boards, commissions and to be more active in public policy development, including running for public office. The



focus was a holistic approach to the community with a major emphasis on how all aspects of the community come together to form a unique culture.

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The Chamber is a Catalyst for Action



Chris Thomas

CEO, Community Hospital
2019 Chairman of the Board

In the data driven world we all live in, numbers matter. Here at the Chamber we often focus on how many members we have, how many companies we have visited, how many legislative bills we've taken positions on, how many people attended last month's Business After Hours.

But some things simply can't be measured. How do we put a number or measure quantitatively the impact of setting something in motion that may not have tangible results for years? That is something that we struggle with in terms of communicating value to you, our members.

Three years ago, the Chamber, working collaboratively with GJEP and the Grand Junction Regional Airport took the lead in convening a group of business and government leaders concerned about the level of commercial air service we have in our community. Frequency of flights and the need for more direct flights had been an issue for years and various groups had tried to formulate a plan to address the issue but to no avail. Through efforts by leaders in the three organizations, the Grand Junction Regional Air Service Alliance, a 501c6 organization was established and a successful campaign to convince voters of the need for an increase in the lodging tax, one third of which would be used for minimum revenue guarantees for airlines was undertaken. By taking the risk out of the decision to serve our market and leveraging local funds with grants this group is well on the way to securing more direct flights in the next few years. And, by merely taking action and showing commitment, we are already seeing a direct flight to Chicago this summer and other commercial air service improvements.

Another example of being a catalyst for action is the Chamber's commitment to the Mesa County Leadership Program. Begun over 25 years ago, the goal of the program was to provide emerging business leaders with a solid foundation of community knowledge and a support network of other business leaders in order to feel comfortable applying for boards and commissions and/or potentially running for public office. Over 250 people have now been through the program and many of them have gone on to serve on boards, run for office and lead nonprofit organizations. To quantifiably measure the impact would be hard, but there is not a doubt in my mind that the impact of the Chamber being a catalyst and implementing this program years ago has led to a better community.

"I'm proud to lead an organization that doesn't get too hung up on the data but rolls up its sleeves and acts as a catalyst for change. Change that ultimately results in a better community and business environment."

LEADERSHIP continued

Since its inception over 300 individuals have graduated from the Mesa County Leadership Program. Many of them have gone on to serve on nonprofit and local government boards and serve the community in a more visible way.

“We are proud to bring this program to our members and the community at large,” noted Diane Schwenke, President and CEO. “It is one of the ways we help ensure that a business perspective is brought to our community dialogues and discussions. It helps promote our community with a behind the scenes learning approach”



Benefits not originally anticipated in terms of the value of the training to the workplace have also emerged. Stuart Hall, Entrada CEO (class of 2014) said, **“The Mesa County Leadership program opened my eyes to the inner workings of Mesa County and to the people that make our government function. I was able to make connections and build relationships with other leaders throughout the community. It was an excellent class that helped to shape my professional development.”**

While there is value in all of the classes, the Annual Trip to the State Capitol is a perennial favorite. Without a doubt, it offers class participants the chance to become active in state public policy development. Ken Brownlee, Mesa County Assessor (class of 2015) recently shared this perspective on his use of his Mesa County Leadership experience. **“It’s not only an opportunity to connect with our own legislators but with others across the State including those with opposing ideas. We get a chance to visit, talk and share perspectives if only for a short while. I am still in touch with some legislators from the front range who I met through the program two years ago. I was able in just a few minutes to make a connection which led to an invitation for a phone call and changes in legislation. This opportunity is invaluable in a republic, our form of government.”**

Businesses and organizations have also used the program to acclimate new employees from outside the region as well. Elizabeth Fogarty, Director of Visit Grand Junction, makes note of how this has helped her. **“Being new to the area, the Mesa County Leadership Program has proven to be an invaluable experience and has provided me a thorough understanding of the region. The program is extremely well organized, thought-provoking, entertaining and shares the impacts of key organizations, nonprofits, and industries in the area. I highly recommend it, even if you are a long-time resident – I guarantee you will gain invaluable insight and a renewed appreciation for your hometown.”**

Applications for the next Mesa County Leadership Program will be accepted April 1st through June 15th. Class size is limited to no more than 25 participants and those chosen are expected to attend all ten sessions, most of which are a day long. For more information contact the Chamber office (diane@gjchamber.org or 970-263-2915) or one of the steering committee members (many of whom are program graduates).

Leadership Steering Committee

Chairman

Joe Burtard, Grand Junction Regional Airport

Committee At-Large

Derek Wagner, Colorado Mesa University

Angela Christensen, School District 51 Foundation

Jon Maraschin, Business Incubator Center

Tawny Espinoza, Community Hospital

Nathan Kinney, St. Mary’s Hospital | SCL Health

Dan Prinster, St. Mary’s Hospital | SCL Health

Julie Hinkson, United Way

Michelle Smith, Rocky Mountain Foundation

Sam Rainquist, City of Grand Junction

Stephanie Reecy, Mesa County

Thank You to the Leadership Steering Committee for the Countless Volunteer Hours Given to Ensure a Successful Program Each Year!

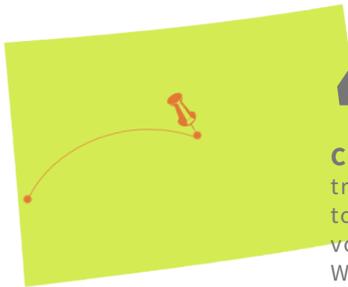


Grand Junction

CHAMBER

2019 1st Quarter by the Numbers

The Annual Legislative Days at the Capitol was held in February



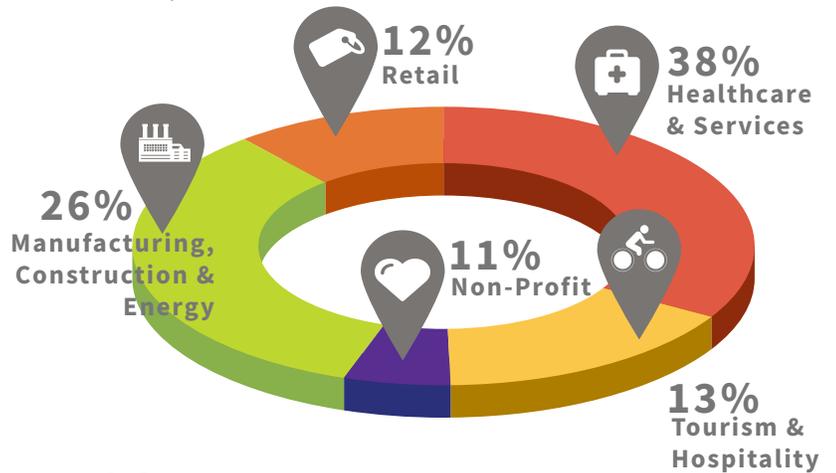
40

COMMUNITY LEADERS traveled the 243 miles to Denver as a collective voice for business on the Western Slope

NEW CHAMBER members

28

As our membership continues to grow, it's important to remember the diversity of the businesses who make up the Chamber.



\$45,000

Raised during our Annual Banquet to fund our **Young Entrepreneur Academy & Mesa County Leadership Program!**



32 BUSINESSES CONVENED



by the Chamber

to discuss the upcoming changes to the TCP fees and the impact they will have on local business

80% of our Chamber members have 10 employees or less



15

RIBBON cuttings

as of March 22, 2019



3 FACTS FOR 3 MONTHS

The Chamber's lead efforts in a **Foreign Trade Zone** continue as the application enters the "Comment Phase" of approval.

Over **24 opportunities** were created for Members to engage in Networking, Advocacy, Learning, and Workforce Development through Chamber events and programs.

Staff focus on "**Value to our Members**" continue as over 150 Members were contacted for feedback and outreach.



635

2019 MEMBERSHIP directories & plaques

hand-delivered by staff, board members, and volunteers



Efforts to Land More Air Service Takes Off



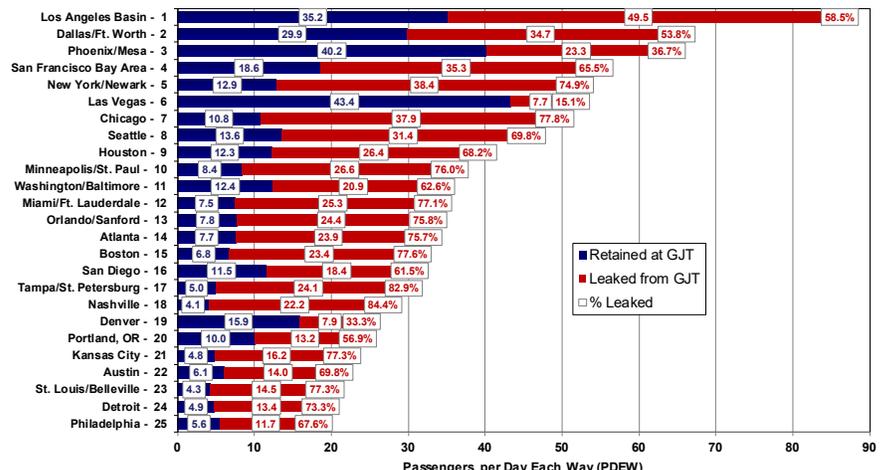
The Grand Junction Regional Air Service Alliance is a stand alone nonprofit that was created jointly by the Grand Junction Area Chamber and GJEP to attract additional commercial air service options to the Grand Valley to serve businesses, tourists and residents. With the passage of the lodging tax increase last fall, the Alliance will now have the funding to market additional service and provide risk mitigation to airlines offering new direct flights. Members of the board are appointed by the Grand Junction Area Chamber and GJEP with several ex-officio members including Grand Junction Regional Airport personnel and representatives from local area governments.

Air service has already seen some significant wins with the expansion of the Allegiant Airlines flight to Mesa, Arizona and the announcement of a weekly direct flight to Chicago this summer.

At the last meeting Michael Lum, Volaire Aviation and a consultant for our local airport provided insights into commercial air service that will be used and the group moved forward, including where passengers from our area are flying to. (chart courtesy of Volaire Aviation and the Grand Junction Regional Airport)

Passengers per Day Each Way (PDEW) in the 25 Largest True Markets at Grand Junction Year-End Second Quarter 2018

The Los Angeles Basin, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Phoenix/Mesa, the San Francisco Bay Area and New York/Newark Are Grand Junction's Five Largest True Markets



Young Professionals Network a Critical Piece to Growing Careers

In today's digital age, young professionals may think that they have networking well in hand. (Literally!) Handheld devices create connections through many online professional groups such as LinkedIn, Facebook Forums, AngelList, and more. But as technology dominates with xennials and millenials, the importance of in-person networking, especially in our community, has never been stronger. Crafting personal, professional relationships can be the critical piece that allows you to stand above the rest. As your local networking group grows, so can your career!



The Young Professionals of Mesa County (YPN), a Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce Program, has been an integral resource for career-oriented young adults to start, grow, and expand themselves in a professional setting here in the Grand Valley.

Each month, YPN offers a variety of opportunities such as **Before Hours**, **Lunch Conversations** with Local Leaders, and **After Hours** where networking is kicked-off with the 1st drink free! Attendees are treated to a variety of topics while continuing to build their social capital with benefits that include strong connections with colleagues, assistance with job hunting, or simply seeking advice from peers.

Bringing together diverse backgrounds, YPN continues to help strengthen young leadership in our valley & support young professional growth, while helping shape the future of our community. Want to know more? **Visit www.ypnmc.org**



Not sure if Young Professionals is for you?

Check out these top 10 reasons to join

- 1. Grow your social capital.** There is strength in numbers! Going offline and meeting in person gives you the opportunity to congregate with like-minded professionals, share ideas, build your network and become part of a professional community.
- 2. Develop your leadership skills.** When you join a professional group, the opportunities to lead are limitless. Are you great at marketing? Lead your group's outreach efforts. A pro at finances? Manage the organization's budget. Plus, you can take your new found leadership skills into your workplace. Share what you've learned with your managers, so they can see your leadership potential.
- 3. Learn from your peers.** Maybe your profession is engineering, but you love event planning. Or maybe you are interested in growing your managerial skills. Joining a professional group gives you the opportunity to learn from your peers. Take advantage of classes and activities the group offers to grow your knowledge.
- 4. Build a better resume.** In your college days, maybe you were in a sorority or student council president. Now, it can be hard to find those resume-building opportunities. Participating in a young professional's group can be an impressive addition to your resume. It shows an interest in volunteerism and a willingness to take on leadership roles in your community.
- 5. Discover new job opportunities.** Experts estimate that between 60-80 percent of jobs are found through personal relationships. There is no better way to forge personal, local relationships than hanging out with young professionals from different industries. Share your goals and keep your eyes and ears open for new opportunities.
- 6. Find a side gig.** If you are looking for a little extra work to grow both your income and your experience, a networking group can provide great side gig opportunities for you. Or if your company needs someone to serve as a consultant, you can offer the same side gig opportunity to a member of your group.
- 7. Volunteer your time.** Professional networking groups are often focused on giving back and volunteerism. The Young Professionals of Mesa County for example, have several opportunities to raise awareness for a variety of community organizations throughout the year.
- 8. Stay inspired.** No matter what your profession, staying inspired to grow and innovate can be difficult when you are in an office 40 hours a week. Meeting with like-minded young professionals gives you the opportunity to trade ideas, solve problems and get inspiration that will only help your career.
- 9. Make new friends.** Gone are the days when you can find your new bestie bonding over chemistry lab work. Whether you are in a new city or a simply a new phase of your professional life, joining a networking group can connect you with a whole new group of friends.
- 10. Get motivated.** Whether your goals are to grow your career and build up your network or to help your community and make new friends, joining these groups can help you stay motivated to reach your personal, professional and community goals.

MEMBER BENEFIT:

Leads Groups

We have all heard of a leads group but do we really know how valuable it can be?

As a member of a Chamber leads group you are not only getting referrals from your fellow members but broadening your sphere of influence.

Each member of a Leads Group has the opportunity to give a 30-minute presentation quarterly, potentially expanding your sales force and growing your overall exposure. Attending every week allows everyone to become better acquainted with you both personally and professionally. Ultimately, becoming more comfortable with the knowledge of you and your business, resulting in increased recommendations and leads.

Leads groups are limited to a maximum of 25 people in non-competing businesses, offering diversity of participants. But don't just take our word for it, here is what Cole Sjöholm, Bank of Colorado, Mortgage Loan Originator and member of the Thursday 7:30 AM group has to say **“The Grand Junction Chamber Thursday Morning Leads Group is dynamic and dedicated to helping each other grow our businesses. Not only are we business partners, but we have become friends too. I appreciate starting my day with a business-boosting activity. It really is such a simple way to help you grow your network. Whether you have been in business for years or are just starting out, we'll have a seat at the table, and the coffee will be fresh!”**

Three time groups are offered and are based on availability.

- 7:30am Thursdays
- 12:00pm Thursdays
- 7:30am Fridays

If you would like to visit one of the three groups the Chamber has to offer, contact Trisha at 970-263-2912 or trisha@gjchamber.org.



April Energy Briefing Features Update on Jordan Cove Project

The Chamber has been a longtime champion of a direct-to-market project that could provide long term contracts to area producers of natural gas which would even out the bust-boom cycle of the industry. The Jordan Cove Project is a proposed LNG facility and pipeline in southern Oregon that connects into the North American pipeline system and could provide a new opportunity for Rockies gas to reach new markets. Pembina, the owner of Jordan Cove, also owns the Ruby Pipeline which directly links to the Piceance Basin and other Rockies supply basins. The Jordan Cove Project has filed applications for more than 30 major federal and state permits and is currently moving through the public permitting process.

Michael Hinrichs will offer an update on the project and how Chamber members can help push it over the finish line on **April 17th, 8:00 AM at the DoubleTree by Hilton**. Michael is an advisor of stakeholder communications and coordination

for the Jordan Cove Project. In his role, Michael leads coalition building, grassroots engagement, supporter mobilization, and issues management. He works all four project counties, as well as leads the Rockies outreach.

Michael has more than 15 years of experience representing the energy industry in the areas of media, crisis communication, coalition building, issues management and corporate social responsibility. Beyond the energy industry, he has worked on campaigns, water issues, land use development, and energy efficiency marketing programs.

Cost is \$15 which includes breakfast and reservations can be made online at the Chamber website, www.gjchamber.org or by calling the office, at 970-242-3214.



Celebrate the Community We Live In

In rural communities such as ours, it takes everyone rowing in the same direction to accomplish significant tasks, which alone one person may not be able to pull off. **Economic Development is conducted by community members - all of us.** Economic Development is a process where local people can not only create more jobs, income, and infrastructure but also help with things like improving networks, using community assets in new ways, and even changing attitudes and thinking differently about how problems are solved.

Just as community development consists of many different aspects, economic development garners different facets of business and businesses. Our existing business retention/expansion and business advocacy efforts are robust. They can include everything from simply listening and giving a bit of advice to jumping in to help with workforce issues, access to capital, business personal property tax savings, starting a business to fill a service void in the community and representation at the State Capitol. We use all of our economic development partners to help along the way because we do not care who gets the credit. We are here to continually develop a community and assist the businesses in it.

So mark your calendars, May 6 – 11, 2019 is Economic Development Week! This is a strategic initiative promoted by the International Economic Development Council and your Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce to get residents and businesses alike to recognize the effort we all play in the development of our communities and businesses within. Our businesses are the backbone of our economy and each one is needed and vital. We will have more information coming as time gets closer, but please plan to join us in celebrating.

#EconDevWeek

#EDW2019

#CelebrateGJ



“Community development improves the situation of a community, not just economically, but also as a strong functioning community in itself.”

– Jim Cavaye – Cavaye Community Development

Director of Retention & Expansion, C.J. Rhyne, wants to hear from you and your business. He wants to develop our community, and he needs your help. Contact him at 970-263-2917 or cj@gjchamber.org to set up a time to talk with you.

Comprehensive Plan Update Matters to Business!

Have your Voice Heard April 10th

As business owners and leaders, Chamber members are encouraged to participate in the City of Grand Junction 2020 Comprehensive Plan update as it proceeds over the next 18 months. The completed plan will be used as a guide to where and how the city will grow over the next 20 years. The update will include planning for residential and commercial growth and needed services and infrastructure (parks, utilities, roads, police, fire, etc.), potential changes to the City's growth boundary, identifying risks and vulnerabilities of natural and human-caused hazards and identifying goals, strategies, and actions that reflect the community's values and vision.



In this planning process the City and its consultant team, Houseal Lavigne is seeking input from everyone. The following community meetings have been scheduled.

1. **A Community Workshop.** Everyone in the community is invited. This meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 9th at 6:00 pm at Two Rivers Convention Center, 159 Main Street, downtown.
2. **A Business Workshop.** This meeting is specific to the business community and has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 10th at 7:30 am. The planning team is looking for the Business Community's input from a business perspective. The meeting will be held at the Chamber of Commerce offices, 360 Grand Avenue in downtown Grand Junction.

The following link takes you to the Comprehensive Plan website: <http://www.hlplanning.com/portals/grandjunction/>. At this website, participants will be able to learn about a comprehensive plan, stay current on the planning process, get involved, provide written comments and identify, using a mapping option, where in the community they see current issues, existing wins, and future opportunities. Please check it out and share it.



Chamber Acts as **CATALYST** for Community Conversation May 8th

Our second annual State of the Valley luncheon continues the valley-wide conversation with elected leaders and key managers from the City of Grand Junction, Mesa County, the Town of Palisade, and the City of Fruita.

Enjoy a panel discussion focused on sharing each speaker's perspective about what is on the horizon that will impact the overall business climate and the strength of our economy going forward. Topics to include local regulation, workforce development, preparing for changes from the State Legislation, and more.

As of our print deadline, confirmed panelists include:

- **Rose Pugliese** - County Commissioner District 3, Mesa County
- **Frank Whidden** - County Administrator, Mesa County
- **Greg Caton** - City Manager, City of Grand Junction
- **Roger Granat** - Mayor, Town of Palisade
- **Janet Hawkinson** - Town Administrator, Town of Palisade
- **Joel Kincaid** - Mayor, City of Fruita
- **Mike Bennett** - Town Manager, City of Fruita

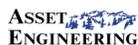
Space is limited and this event sold out quickly last year. The event will be held at Bookcliff Country Club from 12:00pm to 1:30pm. **Cost to attend is \$20 for Members in Advance, \$25 for Future Members or at the Door.**

Presented by



Chadwick, Steinkirchner, Davis & Co., P.C.
Consultants and Certified Public Accountants

Sponsored in part by



Wrap Up the Legislative Session with the Chamber!

The Chamber's Annual Legislative Wrap is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 21st, 7:30 AM** at the Clarion Inn on Horizon Drive.

Local lawmakers have been invited to attend and share their thoughts on how bills passed this session may impact businesses.

A recap of action taken by the Chamber will also be discussed including important bills such as SB19-188 and SB19-181.

A complete list of all positions taken and the outcomes of those bills will also be distributed at the breakfast.

Cost to attend is \$15 for Members in Advance, \$20 for Future Members or at the Door.

Reservations can be online at www.gjchamber.org

Presented by

**I R E L A N D
S T A P L E T O N**



Want to reserve your seat? Email info@gjchamber.org



Putting the "Modern" in Modern Youth Apprenticeship

In today's tight labor market, unfortunately businesses have positions going unfilled for months at a time as hiring managers across a wide spectrum of industry are finding that traditional methods of recruiting skilled talent have become pricy and unsustainable.

As a result, an old idea is becoming new once again: apprenticeship is taking root across the nation because it offers a cost-effective alternative to staffing those hard-to-fill positions.

Apprenticeship isn't a new idea. In fact, it's a really old idea. That's a good and bad thing when it comes to helping people understand what a CareerWise Colorado apprenticeship means for students and businesses.

On one hand, "apprenticeship" is understood to be a rigorous on-the-job training program that results in a skilled worker for the business; and that's still true. But on the other hand, we typically think of an apprentice as an adult man working in a skilled trade such as plumbing or pipefitting and assume that apprentices don't have the means or the ability to go to college.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS.

CAREERWISE APPRENTICES SPLIT TIME BETWEEN SCHOOL, TRAINING CENTERS, AND WORK ON A SCHEDULE THAT WORKS FOR STUDENTS AND BUSINESSES

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
AT HIGH SCHOOL Core academic courses at school (e.g., math), some community college coursework	~3 days a week	~2 days a week	NA
ON-THE-JOB On-the-job training, in form of occupation, rotation or projects	12 - 16 hours a week	20 - 24 hours a week	32-40 hours a week
AT TRAINING CENTER Multi-skill training curriculum in pathway-specific skills	COLLEGE COURSES AND/OR TECHNICAL TRAINING BASED ON STUDENT GOALS & READINESS The instruction students receive provides them with debt-free college credit and the knowledge they need for nationally-recognized industry certification. Typically, courses are taken in the second half of the apprenticeship		



Modern youth apprenticeship paints a different picture of an apprentice. First of all, CareerWise apprenticeships are typically three-year experiences that begin in the student's junior year of high school. Secondly, a modern apprenticeship is not limited to the skilled-trade professions.

In fact, CareerWise pathways include Information Technology, Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, Financial Services and Business Operations. These fields have been identified by a variety of businesses and industries as areas of high-growth, high-demand, and high-paying jobs.

SIX CAREER PATHWAYS and 16 occupations

PATHWAY	ADVANCED MANUFACTURING	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	FINANCIAL SERVICES	BUSINESS OPERATIONS	HEALTHCARE	EDUCATION (Pilot in 2019)
SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS	Production technician Quality control inspector Maintenance technician Logistics	Computer Technician Software QA Tester Junior Coder	Accounting Clerk Insurance Services Expert Financial Coordinator Customer Support	Project Coordinator Purchasing Coordinator Operations Specialist	Currently placing apprentices in pathways within Healthcare such as Culinary, Finance and Business Operations. LPN & CNA opportunities in exploration.	Paraprofessional to Licensed Teacher <i>Denver only at this time.</i>
SAMPLE EMPLOYERS	 	 	 	 	 	



Savanna Pottorff, CareerWise Apprentice
Project Coordinator, GJ Fire Department

The benefits to the apprentice are apparent— meaningful work experience, wage and the development of a professional network. But apprenticeship is not recruitment strategy. Apprentices perform meaningful work in hard-to-fill positions on the investment.

the opportunity to earn debt-free college, a paid philanthropy, it's investing in a smart business and for employers, and their production creates positive

The logistical model of a modern youth apprenticeship—the practical nuts and bolts of making sure it works for both students and businesses—also sets it apart from traditional apprenticeship. CareerWise is a nonprofit intermediary that is working in Grand Junction and statewide to connect the complex structures of education and industry.

CareerWise is in place to help businesses connect with the education system, recruit students, develop training plans and provide ongoing program support. But there are no government incentives or subsidies; businesses, schools and students are motivated to participate by the inherent, natural incentives that the system offers them.

So, next time you hear the word “apprentice,” challenge yourself receivable ledger, or providing online technical support for your imagine an apprentice contributing meaningful work in your business.

to think of a student in a suit creating an accounts customers, or...well, you get the picture—

EXPECTED IMPACT

Business	Apprentice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pipeline of 21st century workers • Positive ROI • Reduction in hiring costs • Increased retention • Loyal, engaged employees • Increased innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills and exposure • Debt-free college credit • Valued industry credential • Established professional network • ~\$30K earnings over course of apprenticeship

See what current apprentice employers—including many here in Grand Junction—are saying about their experience with a CareerWise modern youth apprenticeship at CareerWiseColorado.org/current-employers and contact Jammie McCloud at jammie@gjchamber.org for more information about how you can benefit from the program.

Do You Know **YOUR** Value?

COMPLIMENTARY Sunrise Seminar Kicks Off April 3rd

Have you ever wanted to know what your business is worth? When is the right time to ask that question?

Join the Chamber and Venture Advocates – Business Brokers as they explore the topic of:



BUSINESS VALUATION

BASICS: The Art & Science Behind Recasting, Market Comparables, & Industry Rules Of Thumb

7:30am-9:00am in the Chamber's FCI Boardroom at 360 Grand Ave. This series is open to anyone in the business community, NOT just GJACC members. Space is limited, reservations strongly encouraged.

Email info@gjchamber.org or call 970-242-3214 to reserve your seat today!

Presented by



**HOME LOAN
INSURANCE**



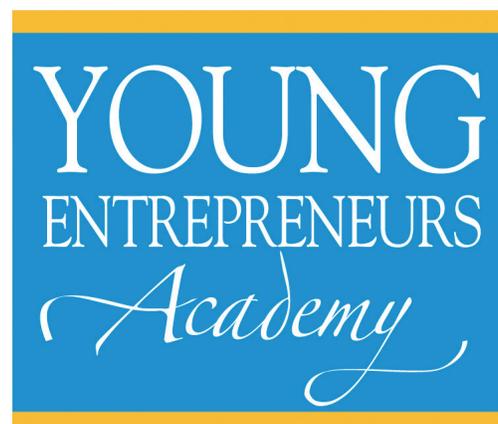
Ready, Set, **LAUNCH!**

After months of preparation and hard work, the Chamber's Young Entrepreneurs Academy students will be officially launching their businesses at the YEA! Trade Show. The Trade Show will take place on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 12-2 PM at the Mesa Mall, 2424 US Hwy 6 & 50.

These middle and high school students started the program in October and are now the CEO's of their very own companies. During this event, the students will debut their products for the first time to the community. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to talk to the Grand Valley's youngest CEOs and buy their products!

YEA! students are taught by local entrepreneurs and are introduced to guest lecturers, successful entrepreneurs, and business mentors. They brainstorm ideas, write business plans then launch their own company or social movement. YEA!'s academic year runs from October through April with classes meeting every Tuesday from 4:00-7:00 PM. The program is now currently accepting applications for next year's YEA! class of 2020.

For more information about this event and how you can get involved with the Young Entrepreneurs Academy, contact Darcy Weir at 970-263-2916 or at darcy@gjchamber.org.



Join us as we Network, Advocate, and Learn



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Apr 2 Legislative Videoconference

GJACC Offices - FCI Board Room
7:30am - 9:00am
RSVP to darcy@gjchamber.org

Apr 3 Sunrise Seminar

BUSINESS VALUATION BASICS

GJACC Offices - FCI Board Room
7:30am - 9:00am
Complimentary, Space is Limited
RSVP to info@gjchamber.org

Apr 16 Legislative Videoconference

GJACC Offices - FCI Board Room
7:30am - 9:00am
RSVP to darcy@gjchamber.org

Apr 17 Energy Briefing Luncheon

JORDAN COVE PROJECT UPDATE

DoubleTree by Hilton
8:00am - 9:30am *NOTE SPECIAL TIME*
\$15 GJACC Members in Advance
\$20 at the Door/ Future Members
RSVP to info@gjchamber.org

Apr 17 Networking @ Noon Lunch

OCOTILLO at THE GOLF CLUB AT REDLAND'S MESA

12:00pm - 1:30pm
\$18 GJACC Members
RSVP to trisha@gjchamber.org

Apr 27 YEA! Trade Show

MESA MALL
12:00pm - 2:00pm
No Cost to Attend
RSVP to darcy@gjchamber.org

Apr 30 Business After Hours

JJ'S CRUISERS

5:30pm - 7:00pm
\$10 GJACC Members in Advance/ \$12 at the Door
MEMBERS ONLY
RSVP to info@gjchamber.org

Legislative Videoconference

GJACC Offices - FCI Board Room
7:30am - 9:00am
RSVP to darcy@gjchamber.org

2019 Board of Directors

Susan Alvillar, James R. Alvillar and Associates

Kimberly Clemmer, Clemmer Welding, LLC

Dr. Brian Davidson, St. Mary's Medical Center | SCL Health

Ryan Ellington, Edward Jones Investments

Ivan Geer, River City Consultants

Jerome Gonzales, JG Management Systems, Inc.

Stuart Hall, Entrada Consulting Group, Inc.

Donna Hardy, Dalby, Wendland & Co., P. C.

Heather Lambeth Root, New Image Realty, LLC

Darin Mack, The Trophy Case

Mark Miller, Ed Bozarth Chevrolet and Buick, Inc.

Paul Petersen, Mesa Mall

Katie Powell, Munro Supply, LLC

Matthew H. Rosenberg, RoseCap Financial Advisors, LLC

Michael Santo, Bechtel Santo & Severn

Stacey Stewart, KKCO 11 News (NBC TV)

Chris Thomas, Community Hospital

Clay Tufly, Alpine Bank

Janie VanWinkle, VanWinkle Ranch

Vance Wagner, ANB Bank



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www.chirojunction.com
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Take a moment and reach
out to say hello to these
fellow local businesses



Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

633 17th St, Ste 1501
Denver, CO 80202-3615
Steve Anton - (303) 549-7462
colorado.gov/pacific/dvr
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Lost Our Home Pet Rescue of Western Colorado

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Grand Junction, CO 81502
Courtney McIntyre - (970) 800-4810
www.lostourhomeco.org
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Delta, CO 81416
Janell Masterson - (970) 874-5256
jenmarservices.jobs
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Mione Caliber, LLC

Conrad Phillips - (970) 200-6045
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Congratulations to these businesses who celebrated Ribbon Cuttings this past month

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(New Business)

Andy Hanks (970) 361-0402
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Glade Park, CO 81523
www.rockytrax.com
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