



# Quarterly Progress Report

Fourth Quarter 2015

12 months completed of a 60 month strategy



Strengthening Greater Peoria through targeted business and workforce development and attraction.

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## **Business Expansion and Retention**

Business Expansions were active in 2015. We assisted with 13 projects, generating 112 new jobs and over 36 million in new investment for Greater Peoria communities. We finished the year with 13 active projects in the pipeline. Sally Hanley, Director of Business Assistance, also met with 94 companies throughout the region in 2015, to identify challenges and opportunities for growth.

Next quarter we anticipate the official formation of our new Greater Peoria Manufacturing Network, a collaborative effort to support new and diverse sales

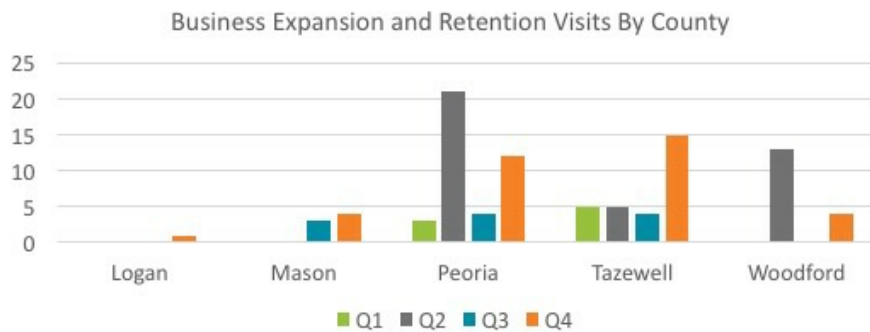
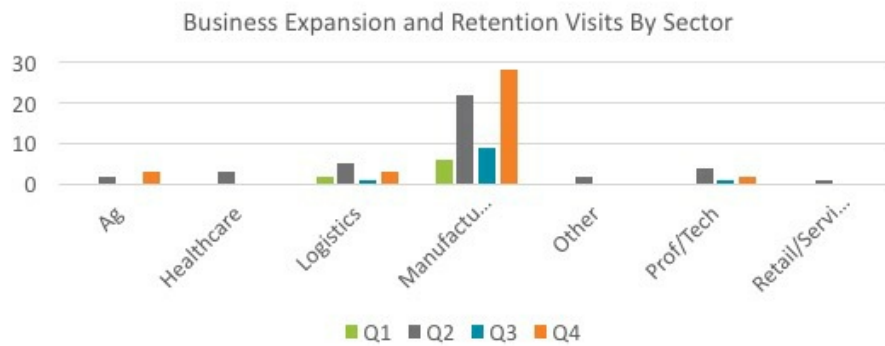
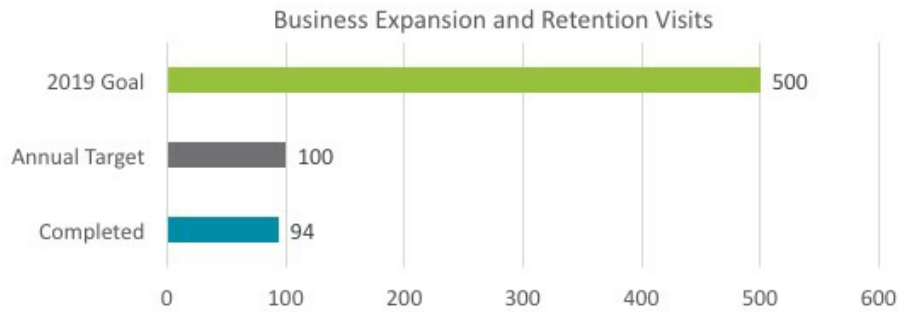
opportunities for our earth moving manufacturers. Nine companies have already signed-on for the program.

We also have our first four Stage 2 companies registered for GP Economic Gardening, a national program that provides professional assistance to companies that have significant growth potential.

Both programs are a critical part of our strategies to accelerate existing business expansions and new job creation in Greater Peoria.

## Business Expansion & Retention Projects January - December 2015



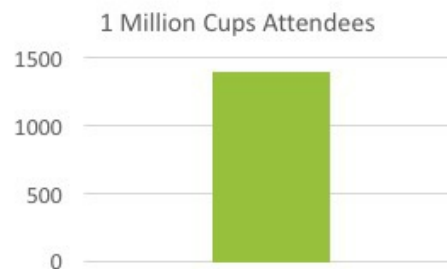
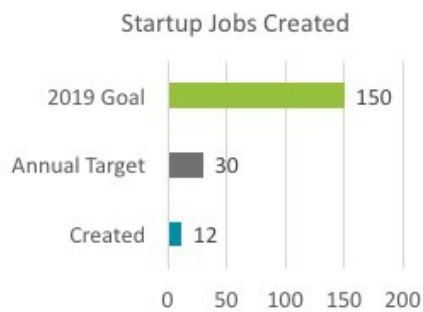
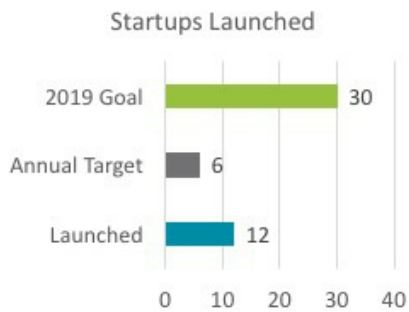


## Business Startup

Randon Gettys, Startup Peoria Coordinator, helped twelve startups launch in 2015, a wonderful sign for the future of business diversity and innovation in Greater Peoria. One client, Bump Boxes, has grown large enough to graduate from The Nest Coworking Space and move into a new home in Peoria.

The DevBright Team (owners are from Pekin) has a new software platform they recently pitched to cities across the country as a solution to making it easier for businesses to "startup in a day." If they secure contracts it could really accelerate their growth in 2016.

## Startup Peoria Projects January - December 2015



QUARTER	COMPANY	JOBS CREATED
Q1:	DevBright	2
Q2:	Lily V Designs	2
Q3:	Modern Thrive	1
	Northerly	3
Q4:	DevBright	1
	Bump Boxes	3
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>12</b>

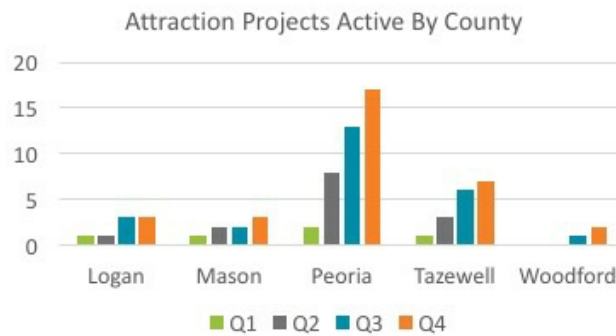
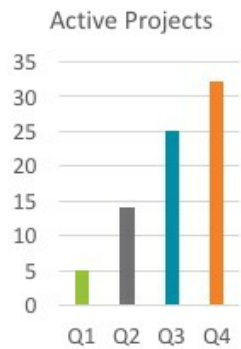
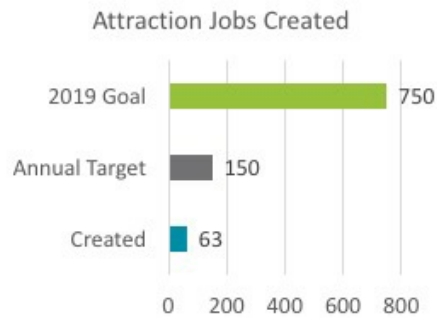
## Business Attraction

Attracting new companies to Greater Peoria is a challenge, but Kim Uhlig carried our marketing message from Chicago to China in 2015 to generate new leads. We had three attraction projects completed in 2015, but we hope for many more in upcoming years.

In 2016, Kim will be attending trade shows in Germany and Canada. She is

meeting with site selectors at the Site Selector Guild in Nashville and also in Atlanta. She will also be participating in Select USA. Her activities last year have already generated a growing list of leads for 2016.

## Business Attraction Projects January - December 2015



QUARTER	COMPANY	DESCRIPTION	CITY	COUNTY	NEW JOBS
Q1:	First Bank SBA	New satellite SBA bank officer	Peoria	Peoria	1
	Ace Delavan LLC	Medical Cannabis	Delavan	Tazewell	60
Q4:	Volleyball Club	Volleyball Club	Peoria	Peoria	2
<b>TOTAL:</b>					<b>63</b>

