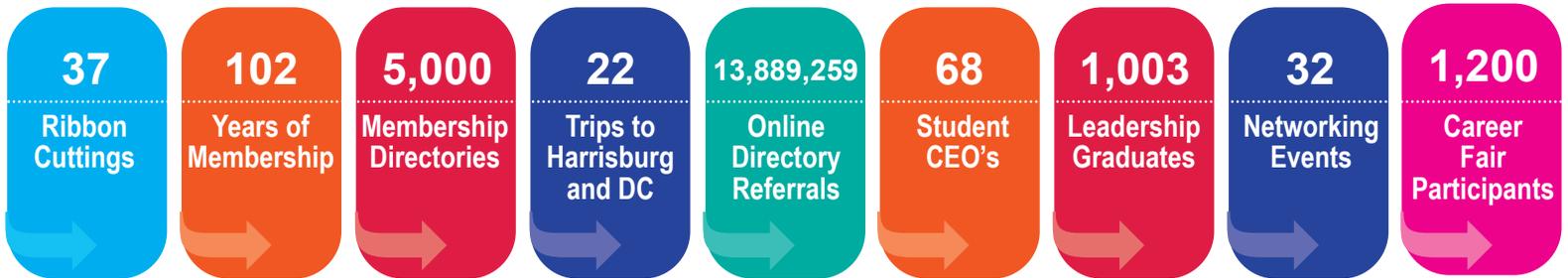




## Blair County Chamber of Commerce What we've been up to **2019**

**2019 was a busy year at the Blair County Chamber of Commerce. Here are just a few things we've been working on for your continued business success.**



### 37 Ribbon Cuttings

Four-hundred-feet of ribbon was stretched in celebration of new businesses, expansions and anniversaries. As a free benefit to its members, the Chamber is proud to provide ribbon-cutting ceremonies while celebrating these important milestones with our members. This is just one of the many ways Chamber membership can be used to promote a business or service.

### 102 Years of Membership

Five Chamber-member businesses have celebrated 102 years of consecutive membership in the Blair County Chamber. This type of unity among Blair County's business community is one of the reasons that the Blair County Chamber boasts one of the highest retention rates among similar-sized chambers throughout the United States.

### 5,000 Membership Directories

The Chamber's Membership Directory is a printed resource guide that not only includes a county profile but also a complete listing of Chamber Members. Each year, 5,000 copies are distributed to consumers, both locally and regionally, including every hotel room in Blair County.

### 22 trips to Harrisburg and D.C.

The Chamber, along with its Public Policy Committee, continues to keep a close watch on pending legislation that will have an impact, negative or positive, on the business community. The Chamber's President/CEO attends conferences on a state and national level focused on legislation while addressing concerns from Chamber members. This information helps to guide the Chamber in its advocacy efforts.



### **13,889,259 Online Directory Referrals**

The Chamber's website is a great resource tool that provides business information, member promotion and upcoming events. One of the advantages of Chamber membership is the online Business Directory. Consumers can access each member through the directory. Online referrals averaged 7,483.44 for each individual member business; which averages 38,000 referrals per day. Only members in good standing are referred. Top ten categories most searched: 1. Non-profit, 2. Retail, 3. Restaurants, 4. Manufacturing, 5. Home health care, 6. Hospitals / healthcare, 7. Recreation / entertainment, 8. Financial services / consulting, 9. Roofing, 10. Food products/services.

### **68 Student CEO's**

Students who graduate from the Chamber's YEA! program do so as CEO's of their own IRS-registered business. This 25-week program is part of the national Young Entrepreneurs Academy where students learn, first-hand from business mentors, how to successfully start and maintain a business. Students then compete for financial backing from investing partners from the business community. With the current class, a total of 68 students will have graduated as registered CEO's.

### **1,003 Leadership Graduates**

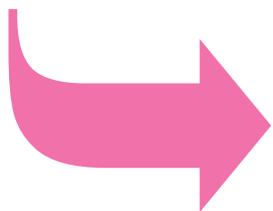
Leadership Blair County Adult, now in its 26th year, and Youth, celebrating its 16th year, is an intensive, life-impacting curriculum focused on servant leadership. Since the inception of both programs, 1,003 adults and students have graduated from Leadership Blair County. LBCY students participate in the program at no cost to their families or schools.

### **32 Networking Events**

Networking is an integral part to any successful business plan. The Chamber's Business After Hours, Business Before Hours and industry-specific networking programs continue to be popular events for business professionals to meet new customers while promoting their business or service. More than 1,520 individuals took advantage of these great networking opportunities.

### **1,200 Career Fair Participants**

Each year high school sophomores take part in the Chamber's BASICS Career Fair. The Fair, held in collaboration with Blair County Rotary clubs, is an opportunity for students to meet with professionals representing 86 career paths. Representing multiple school districts, 1,200 students get a chance to hear what those careers entail, what educational commitment is involved and what financial compensation they could expect to receive.



**The numbers are in!  
No matter how you add it up,  
your Chamber of Commerce  
is working 24/7 for you.**