



GSP Member Events, Announcements and Updates

January 8, 2026

Member Newsletter Submissions

Member updates will be shared through our monthly newsletter. Member events can also be found on our website on the [Community Calendar](#).

Members, please note, if you have an addition to the newsletter, it should be 8.5"x11" and shared as either a png, jpg or PDF file. Newsletters will be sent monthly. Please send your flyers to Alissa Fisher, Director of Marketing, at afisher@greatersandusky.com.

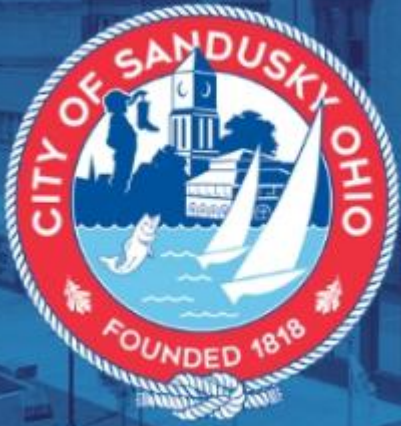
Not yet a member? Join GSP today as a [Business Member](#), [Community Partner](#), [Individual Member](#) or [NCYP Member](#)!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MEMBER APPLICATION



greatersandusky.com
info@greatersandusky.com
419-625-6421



CITY OF SANDUSKY

NEWS RELEASE

City Invites Public Input Through Housing Development Accelerator Survey

Sandusky, Ohio -- The City of Sandusky invites you to take part in an [online survey](#) as the next step in the [Housing Development Accelerator](#), a citywide effort focused on expanding housing options and strengthening neighborhoods.

The survey follows a series of in-person focus group workshops held this fall and gives residents another opportunity to share feedback on housing needs, preferences, and development standards across the city. Additional follow-up discussions are planned for March.

The online survey will be open from December 22, 2025, through January 30, 2026, and is open to all residents, workers, property owners, and others with an interest in Sandusky's future.

"This is a chance for people to weigh in on the types of housing they want to see in Sandusky and how new development should fit into existing neighborhoods," said Chief Planner Arin Blair. "The feedback we receive will directly inform future planning, design guidance, and zoning updates."

The Housing Development Accelerator is led by the City's Division of Planning in partnership with OHM Advisors. The project is focused on identifying practical, market-ready housing types that align with neighborhood character and support the City's long-term housing goals outlined in its Strategic Plan.

City Invites Public Input Through Housing Development Accelerator Survey Continued...

Survey questions cover topics such as current housing conditions, housing types and sizes, design preferences, and support for options like accessory dwelling units. Responses will help guide future planning efforts and shape a housing strategy that reflects community input.

Residents are encouraged to take the survey and share it with others. The survey can be accessed at www.cityofsandusky.com/housingaccelerator.



**HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT
ACCELERATOR**
CITY OF SANDUSKY

ONLINE SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Sandusky Housing Development Accelerator Online Community Survey will be open from **December 22, 2025 to January 30, 2026.**

Your feedback will help shape future planning efforts and guide decisions that support a more diverse, affordable, and community-aligned housing strategy.

We encourage all residents to participate and share the survey with others!
www.cityofsandusky.com/housingaccelerator

YOUR VOICE MATTERS







ENERGY SUPPORT

HEALTH & WELLNESS

BUSINESSES CAN TRUST



Energy costs and supplier changes can be confusing—especially for small health and wellness businesses focused on serving clients, not managing utilities.

One Chamber Energy Program member shared:

"I was helped both times by the same person. Matt was fast, efficient, and nothing but polite. I thank him for all of that."

— Patti Lombardo, Illumin8 Wellness. Mind. Body. Soul.



The Chamber Energy Program provides hands-on support to help members resolve issues, understand their energy options, and avoid costly surprises. **Get your free bill review today** by visiting www.chamberenergyprogram.com, filling out the form, and uploading a recent copy of your electric and gas bills.



UPCOMING DECEMBER COMMUNITY EVENTS

ALL MONTH LONG

**ART IN THE GALLERY: FIRELANDS SHUTTERBUGS
ADULT WINTER READING CHALLENGE
OHIO FIRST DISPLAY**

9

**FRI
JAN**

10:30AM: Senior Stretch
1:00pm: Scrabble Fridays

11

**SUN
JAN**

1:00PM: Chess with Paul Sherwood

12

**MON
JAN**

ALL DAY: Take & Make Craft: America 250
11:30 AM: Mahjong Mondays
2:45 PM - 4:30 PM: After School Gaming Club
6:00 PM: Socrates Cafe

13

**TUES
JAN**

11:00 AM: Art Club
2:00 PM: Virtual Author Talk with David Brooks
6:30 PM: Family Storytime

[VIEW ALL PROGRAMS & EVENTS ONLINE!](#)



WORKspace
SPACE THAT WORKS.

THINK TANK

**WHERE ENTREPRENEURS COME TO SHARE,
SOLVE, AND SPARK NEW IDEAS.**

SCHEDULE

***Guided Discussion & Brain Dumps**

Our facilitator or speaker will lead the group with insightful questions to spark collaboration. You can share specific challenges you're facing in your business so others can offer feedback, ideas, and connections to provide real results in real time.

***Takeaways & Wrap-Up**

Everyone shares one action item or insight they'll implement that month thanks to Think Tank.

TOPICS IN 2026

Small Business Tax Tips, LinkedIn Workshop, Grants 101, and more.

**FREE FOR WORK SPACE MEMBERS
\$5 FOR VISITORS**

A casual roundtable for **small business owners and entrepreneurs** to talk through obstacles, exchange ideas, and learn from each other's experiences.

Each session focuses on a **common challenge**, followed by open discussion and shared insights.

**Third Friday every
month at 9:00 AM**

THIS MONTH:



WORKspace

SPACE THAT WORKS.

Second Monday every month at 9:00 AM

CREATIVE MORNINGS

CELEBRATING CREATIVITY + CONNECTION + COMMUNITY

A space to stir up ideas, inspire & network.

We'll be mixing it up with different open discussions and speakers to showcase **local talent**, spark **imagination**, and ignite **new partnerships** – all set around a central theme each month.

Each session will consist of...

- Networking
- Inspiration Segment
- Interactive Moment
- Wrap-Up

FREE FOR WORK SPACE MEMBERS
\$5 FOR VISITORS

www.WorkSpaceSandusky.com
1521 E Perkins Ave, Sandusky, OH

FEBRUARY

Theme: Connections
Interactive Moment:
Who's in Your Orbit?

JANUARY

Theme: Beginnings
Interactive Moment:
Vision Boards

MARCH

Theme: Growth
Interactive Moment:
Reels & CapCut

APRIL

Theme: Innovation
Interactive Moment:
Reverse Brainstorm

THIS MONTH:





Directions
Cares for
Classrooms

CLASSROOM GRANTS 2025 - 2026 SCHOOL YEAR



Supporting Educators in Our Communities

Directions is proud to champion the incredible work you do every day in the classroom—and we're here to help bring your boldest ideas to life!

We know that teachers often go above and beyond, even reaching into their own pockets to make learning magical. That's why we're thrilled to announce our Cares for Classrooms Grants—a special initiative to support the creativity, passion, and dedication of K–12 educators in the communities we serve.

Here's the exciting part:

We're awarding up to \$15,000 in total grants during the 2025–2026 school year, with individual grants of up to \$500 available to fund classroom dreams big and small.

Whether you need:



New books to spark imagination



Math manipulatives to make numbers come alive



Art supplies to unleash creativity



Software or AV equipment to enhance engagement



Lab Materials for hands-on discovery



Any other resource that supports student learning

...we've got your back!

If you're a K–12 educator in a community served by Directions, we encourage you to apply and let us help you make a difference—one project, one student, one classroom at a time.

Let's build something amazing together. We can help turn your classroom vision into reality!

HOW TO APPLY:

COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION AT:

<https://directionscu.org/cares-for-classrooms/>



Online & Mobile



APPLICATION WINDOW:

FALL 2025

8/25/2025 through 9/30/2025

Winners will be announced on or before November 3, 2025.

WINTER 2026

12/1/2025 through 1/31/2026

Winners will be announced on or before March 2, 2026.

TROUBLE AFFORDING CHILD CARE?

The Erie County Tuition Assistance Program Can Help!!

Covers
licensed &
unlicensed
care

Must meet 2 of these:
1. Live in Erie County
2. Work in Erie County
3. Child care is in Erie
County

Funds
granted for
up to one
year

For children
6wks-12
years of age

Receive 1:1
support from
CCRC
Specialist

Employers can
contribute to
help
employees
succeed!

Is My Family Eligible?

Family Size:



Income Limit:

\$2,383/month

\$3,004/month

\$3,625/month

\$4,247/month



Made possible through the Dorn Foundation, Mylander Foundation, and supported by the Erie County Community Foundation.

Apply Now!

Questions? Contact Tiffany Felter:
440-242-0413 ext. *251 or
tfelter@ccrcinc.com


child care
RESOURCE CENTER



Partner with Us to Strengthen Business and Child Care Together

My Faith Learning Center is partnering with local employers to create a sustainable solution that benefits both businesses and families. Through a state funded Business Partnership Grant, businesses can:

- Reserve guaranteed child care slots for their employees
- Contribute directly to child care tuition support
(additional discounts with the preferred employer plan)

This partnership aligns business needs with dependable, high-quality child care for working families. By joining us, your organization helps build a stronger workforce, supports employee well-being, and invests in the long-term growth of our community.

We invite your business to be part of this collaboration and help shape a model that works for employers, employees, and children alike. Each business partner will be encouraged to participate in the first year of the project to receive foundational support that will help them implement the needed plan for long-term employee support implementation through their fiscal and human resource infrastructure. Support from the state grant will be provided in tiers: 75% in the first year, 25% in the second year, and phased out entirely by the third year, at which point no state support will be provided. The grant will provide support and a “runway” for businesses to update HR policies, rework fiscal investments and support new and existing employees with their child care needs. Child care supports offer a meaningful benefit that reduces absenteeism and improves retention for any business that invests.

To partner and take advantage of this grant opportunity you will:

1. Sign a MOU between the child care program and business
2. CCRC will assist the business with creating a rollout or pilot run of the program
3. Data will be collected from both the child care program and partnering business
4. Quarterly meetings will be held with the child care staff, HR staff and if there are parent groups we will meet with them as well.

If you are interested in a discussion or to begin partnering today contact Jennifer Dodge at 440-242-0413 ext. *231 or email at jdodge@ccrcinc.com.

Thank you



Invites the community to a FREE performance

“I Have a DREAM” Speech

Mon. Jan. 19, 2026 Reception 12:30 pm Speech 1:10 pm – 2pm
Sandusky High School Theater/Auditorium, 2130 Hayes Ave.



The performance of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
is funded by The Lange Trust



Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and relive the momentous “I Have a Dream” speech. Dr. Rev. John H. McCants, St. Paul AME Methodist Church in Canton, portrays Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Assisted Living Near You

Schedule Your Tour Today!
440-967-2424

**With Onsite Nursing Around the Clock,
Seven Days a Week**

Write life's next chapters with the help of Kingston Residence of Vermilion. We combine enriching experiences with quality, 24-hour onsite nursing to provide a community where residents can embrace happiness with open arms, we bring stability, engagement, and connection to every part of life.



**Is It the Right Time
for Senior Living?**

Take Our Survey


KINGSTON
RESIDENCE
of VERMILION

EXERCISE ROOM

Free to use!

60 AND OLDER

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8AM-4PM

Erie County
Senior Center
620 E. Water St
Sandusky, OH 44870
419-626-2560

