

Overland Park selected as pilot city for state's talent recruitment efforts

The Overland Park Chamber is hosting a local launch of the new Love, Kansas campaign.

Love, Kansas is a new state program and tool designed to help market the state and our community to career professionals across the country.

We invite you to a local launch event where you'll see firsthand the initiative's brand, video and tools you can use to assist with your talent efforts. There is no cost to attend. Drinks and light food will be provided.

Join us on **July 11** at [DLR Group](#), 7290 West 133rd Street.

[Register here](#)



OP Chamber.

LOVE, KANSAS LAUNCH EVENT

Join us to launch an exciting initiative elevating awareness of Kansas as a great place to live & work.

JULY 11 | 4-6PM
DLR GROUP



SCAN TO RSVP



KANSAS



Our 41st class of the Leadership Overland Park program graduated in June.

Chamber Board

Board Officers:

Cindy Rock, Chair
C2FO

Josh Beck, Chair-Elect
MarksNelson LLC

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Overland Park Regional Medical Center

Kim Winslow, 2nd Vice Chair
Energys

Matt Sheets, Secretary
FNBO

Chris Wally, Treasurer
Wally & Co.

Joan Wells, Past Chair
Augeo

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Rick Axthelm, Compass Minerals

Josh Bitterman, Goldfish Swim School

India Boulton, T-Mobile

Sterling Cramer, OWN, Inc.

Tom Davies, Security Bank of Kansas City

David Freisner, Fortune Financial Advisors

Tracy Garry, Empower

Hyleme George, Black & Veatch

Scott Kautzi, Strang Hall Chef Collective

Pat Kellerman, Shamrock Trading Corporation

Courtney Kounkel, Monarch Build, LLC

Kristen Leathers-Gratton, Affinis Corp

Will Mann, Zurich North America

Ryan Matthews, Kansas City National Security
Campus

Dr. Tonya Merrigan, Blue Valley School District

Rich Muller, VanTrust Real Estate

Neelima Parasker, SnapIT Solutions, LLC

Ben Prell, MTC Holding Corporation

Dr. Alan Verrill, AdventHealth Shawnee
Mission

Christian Weld-Brown, MBB

Jason Wright, JE Dunn Construction Company

Ex-Officio Board:

Jim Holland, Fisher Phillips LLP

Lori Curtis Luther, City of Overland Park

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, Chamber

Mayor Curt Skoog, City of Overland Park

Chamber staff

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, President & CEO
Courtney Cavlovic, Workforce Development
Coordinator

David Dyer, Membership Director

Paula Fields, Director of Finance & Adminis-
tration

Pam Glickman, Director of Events & Member
Services

Izzy Hagen, Director of Marketing

Tim Holverson, IOM, Vice President, Economic
Development & Entrepreneurship

Ariel Iseman, Workforce Intern

Stan Lawson, Communications Director

Hannah Melton, Assistant Director, Member
Services

Libbey Tucker, CECD, Senior Vice President of
Economic Development

Tanya Rife, Executive Assistant

Natalie Vesta, Economic Development Project
Coordinator

Kevin Walker, IOM, Executive Vice President &
Chief Policy Officer

Andrew Weisberg, Director of Talent

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE

Chamber President

[@traceylosborne](#)



Rankings, opportunities and vision

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Overland Park consistently enjoys top rankings as a “best place.”

This year alone some of our top ten rankings include:

- #2 - Top 5 Places to Raise a Family (WalletHub)
- #2 – 10 Best Places for Families to Live in the U.S. (Travel + Leisure)
- #2 – Happiest Cities in America (WalletHub)
- #7 – Top 100 Best Places to Live in the U.S. (Livability)
- #10 – Top 10 Cities for Rental Activity (RentCafe)

There are other laudable rankings – for affordability, safety, jobs and retirement. And no – the City and Chamber don't purchase these rankings. We find out about them when you do, from press releases and media coverage that highlight the attributes we all value about our city – its high quality of life, commitment to parks, recreation and culture, high educational attainment, excellent public and private education, a diverse economic base providing quality jobs, exceptional health care systems and infrastructure supporting transportation and technology connectivity.

In June our 41st class graduated from Leadership Overland Park. Since January, they've explored the opportunities and challenges of these headline-winning characteristics with a thorough SWOT analysis. Some areas of concern are mental health, access to childcare, diversity in and cost of housing, transportation access and building an office environment that is live/work/play to attract talent.

In the final session, I asked them to craft their vision for Overland Park. Here were some of their responses:

- *To foster a vibrant, inclusive community where residents can thrive. We aim to celebrate our growing diversity and strive to enhance the quality of life through thoughtful development, where live, work, learning and play intertwine.*
- *A city that strives to evolve and adapt to the needs of families and local businesses, being progressive in development which supports a diverse and connected community and cultivating a new century where you can learn, work, play & belong.*
- *A community that takes care of its communities.*

Look for these leaders in the community and think about who you'll nominate for #LOP2025. Nomination forms are available on our website – [click here](#) – or contact Pam at pglickman@opchamber.org.

Upcoming events

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, July 10 – 8:00-9:00 a.m.
[BHC](#), 7101 College Boulevard, Suite 400

Make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities, all while enjoying coffee and a light breakfast.

This event is a great opportunity to see BHC's offices. Founded in 1992, BHC is a comprehensive civil engineering and surveying firm delivering outstanding expertise with "No Problem" customer service in the development, telecom and public works industries.

[Register here](#)



SERIES SPONSOR



Educate to Elevate ... Your Public Service

Monday, July 22 – 4:30-6:00 p.m.
[Discourse Brewery and Taproom](#),
7211 West 97th Street

This program will feature a panel of young elected officials who are ensuring that younger voices and viewpoints are considered as public policy is being crafted. Learn why they got involved, the importance of being at the table, and how you can add your voice to the conversation.

Featuring:

- State Representative Brandon Woodard
- State Representative Lindsay Vaughn
- Overland Park City Council President Logan Heley

Free for Chamber members; \$10 for non-members.

[Register here](#)



1 Million Cups

Wednesday, July 24 – 8:45-10:15 a.m.
Overland Park Chamber,
9001 West 110th Street

Join fellow entrepreneurs for Collisions, Connections and Collaborations – an opportunity to connect with an active and engaged community for conversations and viewing of the live 1 Million Cups pitch presentations.

Free to attend, but registration is requested.

[Register here](#)



Pam Glickman joins Chamber team

We are pleased to welcome Pam Glickman to the Chamber team!

Pam is the Chamber's new Director of Events & Member Services. She will coordinate signature, leadership, educational and networking events for the Chamber, EDC and Foundation. She also provides sponsorship opportunities and coordinates Leadership Overland Park and related programming.

A lifelong Johnson Countian, Pam has a lengthy fundraising and event planning resume, most recently with the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation.

She is excited to produce programming that helps our business partners thrive and would love to talk to you about sponsorship opportunities.

You can reach Pam at pglickman@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7603.



Pam
Glickman

Ribbon cutting celebrations

Celebrate with your fellow members!

July 10 – [Kansas City Guardian](#),
9401 Indian Creek Parkway Suite
670 – 3:15 p.m.

July 11 – [Body Fit Training](#), 6285
West 135th Street – 12:00 p.m.

July 17 – [Ignite Chiropractic &
Wellness Clinic](#), 16070 Metcalf
Avenue – 1:00 p.m.

July 23 – [HealthSource Kansas
City](#), 14864 Metcalf Avenue – 4:00 p.m.

July 25 – [Activate Overland Park](#), 6900 West 119th Street –
9:00 a.m.

August 10 – [PGA Tour Superstore](#), 6621 West 119th Street –
8:45 a.m.



Sponsorships available!



2024 Golf Tournament

August 12, 2024

The Chamber Golf Tournament is a great opportunity to promote your company to 100+ business leaders.

For sponsorships, contact Pam at
pglickman@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7603.

Seeking nominations for 2025 LOP class

The Overland Park Chamber Foundation is accepting nominations for the 2025 Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class. Nominations are due at the Chamber by September 13.

LOP educates participants about the critical issues facing Overland Park, Johnson County and the metropolitan region, and provides opportunities to engage in organizations that resolve these issues with 10 full-day sessions beginning in January.

Founded in 1983, LOP is part of the Chamber's educational foundation. It has graduated more than 1,100 alumni.

For a nomination form, [click here](#).

Event features resources for developing apprenticeship programs



Local, state and national partners and intermediaries recently came together to present a program on apprenticeships.

For the first time, six U.S. Department of Labor apprenticeship intermediaries were in a single location to support one state. The national groups focus on different industries and help companies of all types establish apprenticeship programs.

The Kansas Office of Registered Apprenticeships and Workforce Partnership also provided information on resources to develop and sustain apprenticeship programs.

As a next step, the Chamber will host a 2-day Apprenticeship Champions training at the Chamber office on August 14-15. The first day will provide additional insight into the requirements for registered apprenticeships. The second day will assist participants with creating their registered apprenticeship program and get it through the approval process. We encourage businesses of all sizes and types to participate and utilize this effective tool to help with their workforce needs.

For additional information, contact Andrew Weisberg, Director of Talent, at aweisberg@opchamber.org.

HCA helps make Overland Park one of the nation's healthiest communities

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Menorah Medical Center and Overland Park Regional Medical Center are part of HCA Midwest Health, Kansas City's largest health care network, consisting of hospitals, physician practices, surgery centers and urgent care centers.

Every day, employees at these premier hospitals live out the mission of the organization: "Above all else, we are committed to the care and improvement of human life."

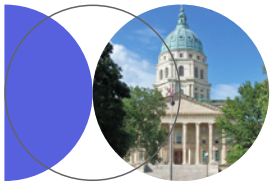
Through community engagement, servant leadership and a commitment to the highest medical standards, Menorah Medical Center and Overland Park Regional Medical Center help make Overland Park one of the healthiest communities in the nation.

Both hospitals are part of the Sarah Cannon Research Institute. Menorah Medical Center is one of the area's premier hospitals that provides the best in care for the community. The Breast Center at Menorah is a leader in the region. It offers 3D mammography and is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers and is certified by the Mammography Quality Standards Act. The hospital is a Center of Excellence in Colorectal Surgery and Bariatric Surgery and is home to the state-of-the-art Neuroscience and Orthopedic Center. The orthopedic

program has been named a Top 50 US Hospital for Orthopedic Surgery and Knee Replacement as well as a Top 100 U.S. Hospital for Surgical and Prostate procedures by *Healthgrades*. Menorah features the latest in robotic technology for physicians to employ when performing complex procedures.

Overland Park Regional Medical Center is home to Johnson County's only Level II Trauma Center; the hospital is also an Accredited Stroke and Chest Pain Center. Overland Park Regional Medical Center is the premier area destination for Women's and Children's healthcare services. It offers the region's only Fetal Health Center to care for critically ill mothers and their babies under one roof. The hospital includes an antepartum unit, a labor and delivery unit, a Level III NICU and a Pediatric Center that offers pediatric specialty care, a dedicated Pediatric ER and pediatric inpatient unit. The HCA Midwest Health Neonatal and Maternal Transport Team – based at Overland Park Regional Medical Center – is prepared 24/7 to safely deliver and care for premature or critically ill infants and care for mothers with high-risk pregnancies via ambulance or helicopter. Overland Park Regional Medical Center has four emergency rooms, including a pediatric emergency room and freestanding ERs in Olathe and Shawnee.

For more information, visit www.hcamidwest.com.



Statehouse Update

UPDATE FROM THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE

PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

For only the 26th time in state history, lawmakers returned to Topeka in June for a special session.

The session was called to deal with tax cuts and changes to the STAR Bond incentive program. The STAR Bond changes were meant to help keep the Kansas City Chiefs and Royals in the metropolitan area.

A compromise on a tax cut package had been elusive all session long.

The new bill, which Governor Kelly signed into law, creates a two-tiered income tax schedule to replace the current three-tiered system. The legislation also increases the standard deduction, increases personal exemptions, eliminates social security income from taxation, and increases to \$75,000 the residential property exemption that supports the uniform statewide school levy. An overview of the plan can be reviewed [online](#) here.

As for pro sports teams coming to Kansas, the change to the STAR Bond program paves the way to provide attractive incentives to bring the Chiefs and Royals to Kansas and keep them in the metropolitan area if Missouri officials and team leaders can't find a path forward in the Show Me State.

Fundamental changes to the program specifically allow for the STAR Bond tool to support an NFL or MLB team relocating to Kansas. The stadium projects would need to exceed \$1 billion in investment and provide a seating capacity of at least 30,000 people. The legislation extends the bond repayment time to 30 years, ten years beyond typical STAR Bond projects. The proposal also allows tax revenue from alcohol sales to support repayment of the bonds, another feature that is unique to this proposal. Cities would not be required to pledge their portion of sales tax collections to the projects. Governor Kelly signed the legislation into law.

Ariel Iseman is summer intern

Ariel Iseman is interning in the Chamber office this summer.

Ariel's internship is part of the Jewish Federation of Kansas City's 2024 Leadership Tomorrow program. Throughout Kansas City, seven college interns are participating in the program in Kansas City's non-profit community to gain real world experience, establish life-long mentors, and have hands on professional development.

Ariel is a finance major at the University of Kansas and will be a junior in Fall 2024. During her time here, she will be involved with the Chamber's workforce development efforts along with several other initiatives and programs.



Ariel Iseman

Learn about the candidates at [VoteJoCo.com](#) Election season is here

ELECTION RESOURCES

With the filing deadline past and the Kansas Legislature's special session adjourned, state lawmakers can go full tilt into campaign mode.

Up for re-election are all members of the Kansas House and Senate, two seats on the state school board from this region, the 3rd congressional district for the United States House of Representatives and several county level races.

The Overland Park Chamber and the other nine Johnson County chambers have once again teamed up to provide voters with a non-partisan way to learn more about the candidates.

Candidate questionnaires and recordings of candidate forums will be uploaded to www.votejoco.com before voting begins for the August 6 primary.

Use our VoteJoCo.com voter education website to learn about the candidates and help elect pro-business candidates.



June's Wednesday Wake-up networking event was a great opportunity for our members to learn more about [AdventHealth Kansas City's](#) impressive new AdventHealth Cancer Institute, a \$76.5 million facility completely dedicated to cancer care – from prevention, to diagnosis, to treatment and follow-up appointments.

2024 Election Calendar

- July 16 Voter registration deadline for the August Primary
- July 20 In-person advance voting begins for the August Primary
- Aug. 6 Primary Election
- Oct. 15 Voter registration deadline for the November General Election
- Oct. 19 In-person advance voting begins for the November General Election
- Nov. 5 General Election



City Council President Logan Heley joined the Chamber to help Dr. Matt Broberg celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Bridge Hill Eye**, 7325 West 79th Street in Downtown Overland Park.

Bridge Hill Eye began seven years ago with the mission of bringing quality eye care to patients who couldn't make it to an exam room. It has expanded with mobile eye care for businesses and a physical location. The care team now includes Dr. Ashtin Songster and Dr. Beth Bazin. Bridge Hill Eye offers its own eyewear line - BeKC.

For more info: (816) 533-5336 or [click here](#).

Thanks for reinvesting!

JUNE MEMBER RENEWALS

50+ Years

Bear & Bear Associates, LP
Family Tree Nursery
Security Bank of Kansas City
UMB Bank n.a.

40-49 Years

Blue Valley Unified School District 229
Drs. Hawks, Besler, Rogers & Stoppel
Lathrop GPM LLP
Oak Park Mall
Polsinelli
Valbridge Property Advisors | Kansas City

20-39 Years

Fastsigns of Overland Park
Hechler Orthodontics
Johnson County Government
Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate
Residence Inn by Marriott
Safehome, Inc.
Santa Fe Body, Inc.
Spencer Fane LLP
SPX Cooling Technologies
Visit Overland Park

10-19 Years

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas
Cleveland University-Kansas City

Kansas City Regional Association of Realtors
McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.
Parker Communications Group
Proshred Security
Tallgrass Creek Senior Living-Erickson Living
Tekniq Data Corporation
University of Saint Mary - Overland Park Campus

5-9 Years

Andy's Frozen Custard-Metcalf
Arcadia at Overland Park
Bassett Home Furnishings
EPC Real Estate Group
Firestone Complete Auto Care-135th Street
Hunt Midwest
Lenny's Grill & Subs - 87th Street
WellSky Corporation

1-4 Years

Aubrey Vineyards
Booth Creek Wagyu
Bourgmont Winery
C2FO
Club SciKidz Kansas City
CreativeOne Marketing, LLC
Enviro-Master of Kansas City
Kansas Turnpike Authority
Mastermind Escape Games of KC LLC
Maxus Properties
Russell



A panel of commercial real estate professionals discussed how local and national trends are impacting construction, building ownership and occupancy at the Chamber Economic Development Council's recent "State of the Office Market" program.

Welcome to the Chamber!

INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Clarity Care KC

Kayla Willis, Relationship Development Manager
9040 Quivira Road
Lenexa KS 66215
(913) 261-3104
contact@claritycarekc.com
www.claritycarekc.com
Health Care

Earth First Waste Solutions

Jaime Nelson
Kansas City Metro
(816) 890-8679
jaime@earthfirstwaste.com
www.earthfirstwaste.com
Recycling, Trash Removal

JARS by Fabio Viviani

Troy Lovins
4937 West 119th Street
Overland Park KS 66209
(913) 232-7103
www.jarsbyfabioviviani.com
Bakery

Kansas Family Dental

Kelsey Oviedo, Marketing and Social Media
10351 Mastin Street
Overland Park KS 66212
(913) 492-5180
grantlahamdmd@gmail.com
www.kansasdentist.com
Dentists

Mi Ranchito

Roxana Rascon
7148 West 80th Street
Overland Park KS 66204
(913) 642-7500
miranchito01harrison@gmail.com
www.miranchitokc.com
Restaurants, Caterers

Mi Ranchito

Roxana Rascon
8550 151st Street
Overland Park KS 66223-2326
(913) 948-6688
www.miranchitokc.com
Restaurants, Caterers

Performance Consulting Group

Zach Ressler, CEO
Overland Park KS
(913) 291-9822
zach@pcgpeo.com
Human Resource Consultants

Trustwell Senior Living

Nicole Rojas-Vermes, Community Relations Director
10665 Barkley Street
Overland Park KS 66212
(913) 642-5400
nrojas-vermes@trustwellliving.net
www.trustwellliving.com
Health Care, Assisted Living Facility

Central Bank continues legacy of Ben Craig and Metcalf Bank

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Central Bank proudly serves the Overland Park community with five convenient locations.

A visit to its 79th Street branch with its retro style design and signage, will bring a feeling of nostalgia for long-time Overland Park residents. Central Bank's team of talented professionals work diligently every day to provide a customer experience second to none in the financial industry. Serving a total of 29 communities with 49 full-service branches, Central Bank is conveniently located where you need it and offers best-in-class services for all your personal and business needs.

As the Proud Community Banking Partner of Sporting Kansas City, Central Bank is the only place you can get Sporting checking and the official Sporting debit card. As the title sponsor of the Sporting KC/ Inter Miami match at Arrowhead Stadium, with the largest soccer crowd in Kansas City history, Central Bank provided a

unique activation space for customers and fans to enjoy before the match. A true testament to the importance of community engagement, Central Bank's team had boots on the ground to make sure their customers enjoyed the day.

As Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Opportunity NOW initiative, Central Bank of the Midwest President & CEO Bill Ferguson is proud to continue the long-time commitment Central Bank has made to the Overland Park Chamber and the Overland Park community. Nothing better exemplifies that commitment than a visit to Ben's Bank at Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead. Named for Mr. Ben Craig, a long-time team member at Central Bank and lifetime supporter of the Overland Park Chamber, Ben's Bank offers a glimpse back in time at what banking used to look like. Central Bank is proud to continue his legacy through support of the Overland Park community and the farmstead.

For more information, visit www.centralbank.net.



Driving Economic Success

Building Permits – May 2024				
	New Commercial	Institutional, Schools, etc.	Other Commercial	Total
	1	-	53	54
Sq. Feet	3,692	-	33,314	37,006
Value	\$651,269	-	\$28,514,098	\$29,165,367

– City of Overland Park

Unemployment			
	May 2024	Apr. 2024	May 2023
Overland Park	2.8%	2.6%	2.6%
Johnson County	2.8%	2.6%	2.4%
KC Metro MSA	3.0%	2.7%	2.6%
State of Kansas	3.1%	2.7%	2.6%

(These percentages are not seasonally adjusted)
 – Kansas Labor Information Center (KLIC)
 – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Looking for meeting space?



Did you know the Chamber building in Corporate Woods offers affordable meeting space for small to large groups?

Whether you're needing a small room for a one-on-one meeting, a large room accommodating up to 85 people or a shaded outside terrace with a firepit, the Chamber has the perfect space for your next corporate gathering.

You'll find more details on our website: www.opchamber.org/meeting-space or contact Hannah at (913) 766-7610.

This newsletter is distributed monthly by the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, 9001 West 110th Street, Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66210.
 (913) 491-3600 | Fax: (913) 491-0393
opcc@opchamber.org | www.opchamber.org

Corporate Partners



CELEBRATING WITH OUR MEMBERS



The Chamber and Chef Fabio Viviani helped Troy Lovins, Owner/Operator, and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for [JARS by Fabio Viviani](#), 4937 West 119th Street.

JARS is a culinary adventure in a single-serve jar featuring an elaborate assortment of classic desserts from around the world. Celebrity chef Fabio Viviani, a hospitality visionary and the founder of JARS, has re-imagined the way people experience dessert with a menu that celebrates indulgence, creativity and flavor. For more info: (913) 232-7103 or [click here](#).

Corporate Sponsors

[Affinis Corp](#)

[Empower](#)

[Evergy](#)

[FNBO](#)

[Foulston Siefkin LLP](#)

[JE Dunn Construction Company](#)

[Johnson County Community College](#)

[Kansas Gas Service](#)

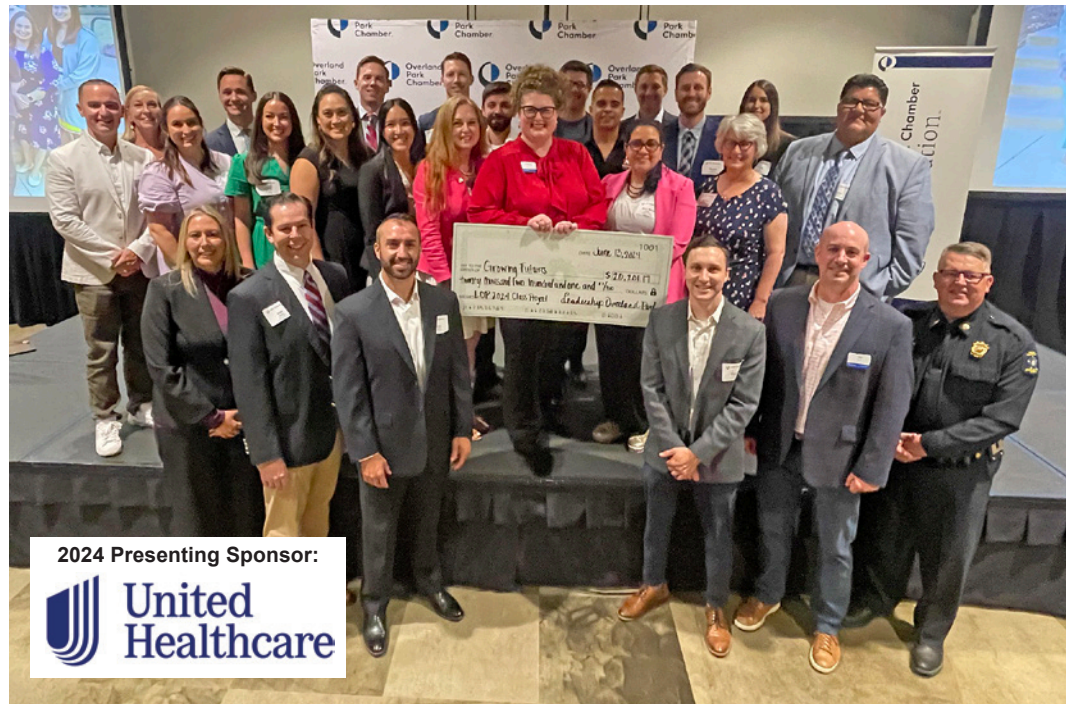
[McCownGordon Construction](#)

[Spencer Fane LLP](#)

[The University of Kansas Edwards Campus](#)

To add your name to this list, contact Tracey Osborne Oltjen at (913) 491-3600 or tosborne@opchamber.org.

2024 Leadership class graduates



2024 Presenting Sponsor:



After six months of sessions, our 41st class of the [Leadership Overland Park](#) program graduated on June 13. Chamber Foundation Chairman Brad Stratton, [Overland Park Wealth Management](#), emceed their graduation ceremony, which also included a charge to the class by Mayor Curt Skoog, Colette Panchot speaking on behalf of her class, Carly Beckett, [AdventHealth](#); and Justin Calhoun, [Turner Construction](#), sharing details about the class service project and the presentation of a check for \$20,201.17 to [Growing Futures Early Education Center](#), and 2024 Leadership Overland Park Educate & Elevate Scholarship presentations to Olivia Martin and Josh Filley.