

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fay-Penn Economic Development Council Closes More Than \$1.37 Million in Loans in 2025, Driving Business Growth and Job Retention Across Fayette County

Fayette County, PA — The Fay-Penn Economic Development Council (Fay-Penn) announced the successful closing of multiple loans through its revolving loan fund in 2025, providing critical financing to local businesses and organizations while advancing job creation, job retention, and long-term community investment throughout Fayette County.

In total, Fay-Penn facilitated more than **\$1.37 million in direct loan funding**, leveraging almost **\$2 million in total project investment** in 2025 across the retail, education, food service, nonprofit, and small business sectors. These investments resulted in the **creation of 31 jobs and the retention of 56 existing positions**, reinforcing the strength and resilience of the county's economy.

Projects supported in 2025 include financing for May's Country Store in Normalville to expand its existing facility; Mount Moriah Christian School to purchase a campus in Uniontown for the operation of its high school; the acquisition of Darby's Restaurant to ensure continued operations and employment; an office buildout for Lenny Pasquale Customs, LLC within its car restoration business; and the purchase of a new building for the Greater Connellsville Chamber of Commerce to house its operations.

"Fay-Penn's loan fund is designed to fill financing gaps and help businesses move forward with projects that strengthen our local economy," said Jerrod Murtha, Executive Director of Fay-Penn. "The projects completed in 2025 clearly demonstrate the impact that strategic, locally focused lending can have on job growth, business stability, and community energy."

Strengthening Fayette County's Economy

Through its loan fund, Fay-Penn continues to offer flexible financing solutions that help businesses expand, transition ownership, invest in facilities, and stabilize operations—particularly when traditional financing options alone may not meet project needs.

Businesses and organizations interested in learning more about Fay-Penn's loan programs and business support services are encouraged to **contact Bryce Landman** at 724-823-8054 or brycel@faypenn.org.

About Fay-Penn Economic Development Council

The Fay-Penn Economic Development Council is a countywide nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering economic growth, supporting businesses, and enhancing quality of life in Fayette County.

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