



Arvada Chamber
of Commerce

PROGRAMMATIC OVERVIEW 2025

Connection



Business Growth



Leadership



Advocacy



Talent



Housing



Childcare



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A Century of Strength: Celebrating 100 Years

2025 is a big year: it marks our 100th Anniversary. This milestone is not just a celebration of our past; it is a testament to the resilience and strength of our business community and a commitment to the opportunities that lie ahead.

As we look back at the Arvada Chamber's history, we see a consistent thread of action around connection, advocacy, leadership, and resiliency. The Chamber's very first campaign, in October of 1924, urged Arvadans to vote in the upcoming election. The 1940s saw the Chamber respond to the needs of a country at war, followed by local concerns for the business community around transportation, water, and communicable disease. In 1962, the Arvada Chamber led a feasibility study to establish a college in Arvada, a need later filled by the Red Rocks Community College campus in 1990. And in this last half-decade, the Chamber led a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and pioneered the B.O.L.D. 2026 initiative to tackle the biggest business challenges in Jefferson County.

Throughout the past century, the Arvada Chamber of Commerce has been a steadfast advocate for local businesses, adapting to the ever-changing landscape of the economy and community needs. As we look forward to the next chapter, we recognize that the challenges facing businesses today are more significant and complex than ever before. Economic uncertainties, regulatory shifts, and evolving market dynamics present unprecedented hurdles for businesses of all sizes. The Arvada Chamber remains dedicated to utilizing our collective voice to improve the business environment for all.

As we celebrate this centennial milestone, we also recognize the importance of building connections within our business community. We understand that being in business can often feel isolating, which is why we're committed to fostering a strong sense of community among businesses across our region. In the coming year, we'll be expanding our networking events, mentorship programs, and industry-specific forums to create more opportunities for collaboration and support. Our Business Resource Center will continue to serve as a hub for knowledge-sharing and professional development, offering resources such as peer mentor cohorts, sales bootcamps, and office hours with experts.

Thank you for being an essential part of this 100-year-old journey. We look forward to working alongside you in 2025 as we celebrate our past and embrace the future. We're just getting started.



Kami Welch

President & CEO
Arvada Chamber of Commerce

OUR MISSION

The Arvada Chamber of Commerce is the catalyst for solving Arvada's most critical business challenges and a champion for advancing a thriving community.



OUR VISION

Healthy businesses, **thriving community.**

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Arvada Chamber of Commerce is a community of businesses, organizations, and local leaders working together to solve challenges, foster meaningful connections, and develop the next generation of talent and leadership. Our work – driving action on conversations, resources, and large-scale initiatives that businesses can't tackle on their own – is central to the long-term success of our community as a whole. When you play a part, we all thrive.



Arvada Chamber Pillars

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BUSINESS SERVICES

The bedrock of the Arvada Chamber's historical value and reputation is direct-to-business services, and we will continue to innovate in these offerings in 2025. This focus area supports businesses through meaningful connections, opportunities for growth and support, and leadership development.

Many business services are benefits of Chamber membership, including our networking groups and events, digital promotional opportunities, and industry-specific convenings. Additionally, the Arvada Chamber also works to help all businesses and organizations in the region thrive with services provided through the Business Resource Center. These include business education classes and programs, data and research tools, and new business cohorts to support entrepreneurs.

This pillar of the Chamber also includes our most significant annual events, including the Annual Dinner, Annual Awards Event, Taste of Arvada, Leadership Lunches, Day of Service, Annual Golf Tournament, and more.

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ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Arvada Chamber and our many regional partners work tirelessly to proactively support a healthy environment for all businesses to thrive today and into the future. Through quarterly surveying, the Arvada Chamber is able to stay updated on the top business challenges and respond to macro and urgent needs. Today, we are focused on supporting the business community through advocacy, talent pipeline development, and efforts to increase access to housing and childcare for the workforce.

The Arvada Chamber provides programs, resources, and events to support and connect businesses across these critical topics. But we cannot do it alone. In addition to partnering with the right organizations across the region, the Arvada Chamber offers essential business engagement opportunities; from joining networks to receive updates to serving on KAPS Councils to lead directly, we encourage you to play a part in helping all businesses thrive.

Business Services

Connection

Business Growth

Leadership



FORM MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

The Arvada Chamber believes a meaningful business connection extends far beyond a handshake and business card. Real growth opportunity arrives in the form of authentic and consistently engaged relationships. We aim to provide that through a full calendar of groups, programs, and events for businesses of all sizes and industries.

New Events & Programs

+ **New and Improved Member Portal: GrowthZone**

The Arvada Chamber is continually seeking innovative technology to help businesses grow. The new member Info Hub now allows business owners and employees to sign up for segmented communication, view business tools and resources, connect to other members directly, and more.

+ **Ambassador Program**

The Chamber is bringing back the Ambassador Program as a means of multiplying Chamber messaging and goodwill through advocates in the community and in our active groups.

+ **Home Services Convening**

This event leverages one of the strongest referral opportunities in the Chamber, connecting the construction and real estate industries with home service providers such as plumbers, electricians, painters, and more.

+ **Experience-Based Member Connection Events**

An evolution of the Chamber's static, traditional networking event will offer attendees a behind-the-scenes look at the host business, whether it be a tour, demonstration, Q&A, and more.

+ **New Networking Group: Arvada Business Collaborative**

Piloted in 2024 in response to the need of a fresh, new Chamber group, this networking group open to all members includes a monthly presentation and dedicated time for collaboration.

Existing Events & Programs

● **Six Networking Groups**

The Arvada Chamber offers six networking groups that meet at a variety of intervals and are designed to help members grow their personal and professional connections.

● **Expansion of Maximize Your Membership Success**

This education program for members will expand beyond digital marketing benefits to topics such as networking best practices and how to engage in Chamber leadership opportunities.

● **New Member Receptions**

The Chamber offers bi-monthly events for new members to meet our staff and other members to get acquainted with the Chamber's mission and programming.

● **Ribbon Cuttings**

A business opening its doors or celebrating a big milestone deserves community support and recognition. The Chamber's ribbon cuttings bring together the business community and our elected officials to celebrate these occasions.

● **Member Appreciation Event**

This annual event offers a casual opportunity for all of our members to meet each other and the Chamber staff, and be recognized for engaging in their Chamber membership.

● **Annual Golf Tournament**

An event primarily attended by the Chamber's investor-level members, offers an elevated and fun opportunity for business leaders to engage outside of the office.

● **Non-Profit, Wellness, and Senior Services Industry Convenings**

These annual events bring together dozens of business leaders from the same industry to connect and establish partnerships.

INCREASE BUSINESS GROWTH AND SUPPORT

Through the Business Resource Center, the Arvada Chamber provides resources, programs, and opportunities to support entrepreneurial journeys. Whether through large-scale events, lunch and learns, multi-part programs, or one-on-one support, we aim to help regional businesses stay, grow, and thrive.

New Events & Programs

+ Digital Content Library

Every year, the Arvada Chamber creates dozens of original business education materials and hosts events with valuable presentations and handouts. These materials will now be housed in an easy-to-access directory on the member Info Hub.

+ Peer Mentor Cohorts

Hosted at the Business Resource Center, the Arvada Chamber will offer a mentor program for entrepreneurs to learn from seasoned business leaders in a variety of roles and industries.

+ Sales Bootcamp

Selling your products and services (as well as yourself) is an art every entrepreneur can benefit from. The Arvada Chamber will host a multi-part series that explores strategies for targeting, messaging, and closing in any industry.

+ Office Hours with an Expert

The Arvada Chamber will host experts in areas like marketing, HR, insurance, and finance for entrepreneurs to schedule short, pressure-free advisory meetings at no cost.

+ EOS Cohorts

The Entrepreneurial Operating System helps businesses of any size manage and support their teams, functions, and goals. These cohorts will assist small businesses in collaborating on and challenging their EOS progress and projections.

+ Amaze Healthcare Benefits

Members get access to an innovative solution from Amaze Health that helps cut out the time and cost of traditional medical services. For \$25 per employee per month, members get virtual urgent care, mental health services, prescriptions, and more.

Existing Events & Programs

● Day of Service

In its second year, this half-day event is an opportunity for businesses and non-profits to engage to better the community. Organizations host a variety of service projects to complete on the day and over 100 business leaders sign up to volunteer.

● Taste of Arvada

For over 20 years, Taste of Arvada has been the city's largest annual food festival, as over 1,500 attendees get introduced to area food and beverage businesses.

● SizeUp Arvada

This free tool levels the playing field by empowering small businesses with data insights that typically only corporations can afford to access. Entrepreneurs can use the software to estimate the viability of their future and test assumptions of their business plan.

● Business Trend Surveys and Snapshots

The Chamber is committed to using data to support programs, resources, and policy shifts. The Chamber issues quarterly business challenge surveys and turns that data into reports that are shared with the business community and elected officials.

● Crime & Safety Program

This Arvada Resiliency Taskforce program includes the Crime and Safety Toolkit and educational programming, designed to help businesses enhance their security measures and educate owners and employees on effective crime prevention strategies.

● Business Resource Center Programs

The Chamber will provide business leaders with targeted, expert-led learning experiences on the most critical and emerging business topics, delivered through a regular cadence of interactive sessions that will enhance strategic thinking, accelerate problem-solving skills, and enable organizations to navigate complex challenges and drive sustainable growth proactively.

FOSTER LEADERSHIP ACROSS THE COMMUNITY

Leadership can take many forms in our business community. The Arvada Chamber provides a diverse array of leadership opportunities through bootcamps, cohorts, and councils, to bolster individual professional development and help lead overall growth in the community. We also play a large role in recognizing and telling the story of individual and organizational leaders in our community.

New Events & Programs

+ **Leadership 2.0**

This program will elevate emerging leaders by providing advanced management skills, insights, and tools through immersive training and networking opportunities.

+ **Inclusion Network**

A local network of business and non-profit leaders who have passion, interest, and perspective on inclusion and belonging initiatives. The network receives emailed updates, data, stories of impact and opportunities to provide feedback and attend programs related to this critical area of the Arvada Chamber.

Existing Events & Programs

● **Leadership Bootcamp**

The Arvada Chamber is dedicated to developing the catalytic leaders of the future to contribute to the success of local businesses and the community. This award-winning, 12-week program is designed to help owners, managers and other business leaders grow their personal, team, and business leadership.

● **Annual Dinner**

The Arvada Chamber's 100th Annual Dinner will recognize the business, non-profit, and entrepreneur of the year, in addition to other great leaders in our business community.

● **Annual Awards Event**

This annual event will crown the most prestigious individual awards in Arvada: the Arvada Man and Woman of the Year, along with other leadership awards recognizing outstanding involvement in and impact to the community.

● **Leadership Luncheon Series**

This quarterly series serves as a dynamic forum for community engagement and networking among Chamber members and community leaders. These luncheons feature inspirational and informative speakers and features the popular annual "Meet Your Community Leaders" luncheon, as well as other impactful sessions.

● **Arvada Young Professionals**

Arvada Young Professionals is a local hub for professional development and networking, whether you're new to the area or newer in your career.

● **WOW Women of Arvada**

For the fifth consecutive year, the Arvada Chamber will lead a celebration of women leaders who work or live in Arvada as part of Women's History Month. Community members can nominate women to highlight as the Chamber celebrates business owners, executives, rising stars, pioneers, entrepreneurs, inventors, influencers, and other leaders in Arvada.

● **Future 20**

The Arvada Future 20 list recognizes Arvada professionals under age 40 who have significant career achievements and the ability to play an influential role in the community into the future.

● **Inclusive Workplace Pledge**

By making a commitment and signing the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Inclusive Workplace Pledge, you commit to being an ally in creating a diverse, inclusive, and safe space for all people in the community.

Advocacy

Talent

Housing

Childcare

Economic Impact



IMPROVE THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The Arvada Chamber is dedicated to fostering a healthy business environment through the promotion of business-friendly policies. By connecting businesses to regulatory issues, advocating for pro-business legislation, and streamlining processes, the Chamber aims to protect and enhance the interests of local businesses.

New Events & Programs

+ **Advocacy Network**

A local network of business and non-profit leaders who have passion, interest, and perspective on advocacy initiatives. The network receives emailed updates, data, stories of impact and opportunities to provide feedback and attend programs related to this critical area of the Arvada Chamber.

+ **Quarterly Advocacy Briefings for Network Members**

We will strategically expand our Advocacy Network through active polling, targeted education initiatives, strategic testimony engagement, and quarterly briefings that connect business leaders to elected officials and the latest policies.

+ **Elected Official Business Tours**

Offering more behind-the-scenes visits to local businesses will help foster a robust, informed, collaborative network of elected officials empowered to drive meaningful policy innovations and strengthen community representation with our economy in mind.

Existing Events & Programs

● **Frequent Advocacy and Policy Updates**

During the legislative session, members will receive the Advocacy Action newsletter featuring updates from the Capitol, events, and opportunities to testify.

● **Bill Tracker**

Every year, hundreds of policy changes are proposed that will impact the health of Arvada businesses. On this frequently updated page, read about the latest bills the Arvada Chamber has taken a position.

● **National Civics Bee**

The National Civics Bee® is an annual competition that encourages young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. Participating middle school students will flex their civics knowledge for a chance to win recognition and cash prizes.

● **Advocacy After Hours**

These events allow business leaders to connect with local, state, and federal candidates and elected officials. Attendees get face-to-face engagement to discuss the implications of policy decisions on their business.

● **Annual Voter Guide**

This extensive digital guide includes information and debate questions with the candidates, a breakdown of the top ballot measures, and more to help our business community be informed voters.

● **Candidate and Ballot Forums**

These popular annual forums are an accessible opportunity to hear from local candidates and gain a deeper understanding of the bills impacting businesses on the upcoming ballot.



GROW YOUR TALENT

The Arvada Chamber has long been dedicated to ensuring our region develops, retains, and attracts the skilled workers needed by area employers. This is accomplished through an employer-led systems change by connecting business to talent suppliers to collaborate on solutions. In this critical area, Arvada Chamber supports regional coordination with workforce and education partners, industry-specific partnership groups, and one-on-one direct support to connect employers to talent.

New Events & Programs

+ **Talent Network**

A local network of business and non-profit leaders who have passion, interest, and perspective on talent development initiatives. The network receives emailed updates, data, stories of impact and opportunities to provide feedback and attend programs related to this critical area of the Arvada Chamber.

+ **Talent Pipeline Management Cohorts in eight new industries**

Over the next two years, we'll support eight growing industries by partnering to create sustainable education-to-career pathways using the U.S. Chamber Foundation's TPM process.

+ **Asynchronous Employer Training and Resources**

For businesses not in industry cohorts, we'll offer bi-annual workshops, bi-monthly community calls, and an online resource platform to help you develop diverse recruitment, onboarding, and retention strategies through Work-Based Learning—at your own pace.



Existing Events & Programs

● **HR Cohort**

Going beyond traditional networking, this cohort of human resource leaders offers a platform for the exchange of ideas, implementation of emerging practices, and leadership in revolutionizing HR strategies.

● **Career Coach**

This software introduced for Jefferson County Public Schools offers career seekers (and explorers) an opportunity to quickly understand career opportunities that align with their personality. The program, open to all in the community, also connects users to companies that are hiring for those roles and programs that are offered for upskilling support if needed.

● **Employer Info Sessions and Workshops**

Along with partners in Jefferson County, the Arvada Chamber offers workshops for businesses of all sizes to learn more about building work-based learning opportunities and one-on-one talent strategy sessions.

● **Work-based Learning Toolkit**

This extensive toolkit guides businesses and non-profits through detailed steps to properly host and evaluate work-based learning experiences and, eventually, build a long-term, sustainable program.

● **Sector Partnerships in Advanced Manufacturing and Construction**

Over 100 business leaders have joined partnerships in manufacturing and construction and meet regularly to drive action in response to talent, industry awareness, and supply chain challenges.

INCREASE INCOME-ALIGNED HOUSING

Over 80% of Arvada's workforce lives outside of Arvada and 40% of Arvada workers commute more than 30 minutes one way to their place of employment. More and more businesses are noticing that the cost of housing and long commute times are impacting their ability to recruit and retain top talent. The Chamber's goal is to ensure access to income-aligned housing so that workers can attain housing within reasonable proximity to their jobs. The Chamber is leading the way in education and policy while ensuring businesses have a voice to help solve this critical issue.

New Events & Programs

+ **Housing Network**

A local network of business and non-profit leaders who have passion, interest, and perspective on housing initiatives. The network receives emailed updates, data, stories of impact and opportunities to provide feedback and attend programs related to this critical area of the Arvada Chamber.

+ **Two Annual Education Panels**

These events are an opportunity to convene business and housing partners through education on income-aligned housing solutions for our region's workforce. These panels will feature subject matter experts presenting on a variety of topics, including specific resources for employers, information on housing solutions, and policy changes.

Existing Events & Programs

● **Housing Advocates Program**

This program allows business leaders to learn about housing advocacy at the local, regional, and state levels, and trains local business leaders on how to tell their housing impact narrative to support income-aligned housing projects, initiatives, and policy.

● **Housing Toolkit**

This toolkit provides information and resources for employers to increase access to income-aligned housing for their workforce. The toolkit includes information on awareness-building, programs, and partnerships, advocacy, and investment.

● **Housing Tours**

This initiative offers employers, community leaders, elected officials, and housing partners the opportunity to tour local income-aligned housing solutions for the workforce and learn how businesses can play a role in supporting these efforts.



INCREASE CHILDCARE CAPACITY

The Arvada Chamber is dedicated to increasing childcare capacity to enable caregivers to join the workforce and give children the quality early learning experience they need to thrive. To achieve this end, we need public policy and direct action that supports the needs of businesses and their employees. The Chamber has convened key regional partners, stakeholders, and businesses to catalyze a program that solves this problem

New Events & Programs

+ **Childcare Network**

A local network of business and non-profit leaders who have passion, interest, and perspective on childcare initiatives. The network receives emailed updates, data, stories of impact and opportunities to provide feedback and attend programs related to this critical area of the Arvada Chamber.

+ **Childcare Provider Cohort**

This opportunity focuses on the challenges and needs of local childcare providers, and offers resources, support, connection, and learning to support childcare providers in providing quality childcare.

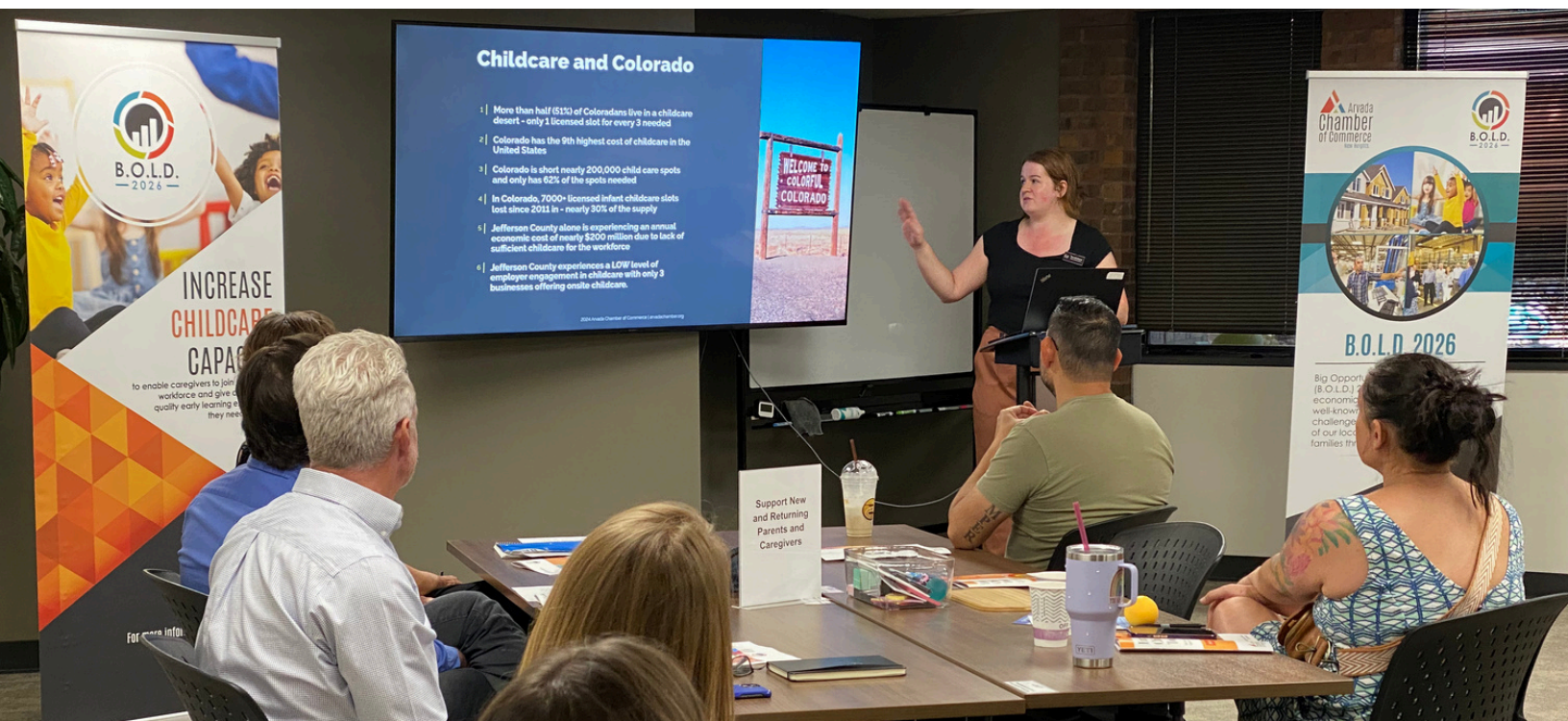
+ **Education Panels and Facilities Tours**

These events are opportunities to convene businesses, childcare providers, childcare partners, community leaders, and elected officials to learn more about effective resources, policy, and opportunities to increase childcare capacity. The events offer education by subject matter experts and tours of employer-led childcare solutions.

Existing Events & Programs

● **Family Friendly Workplace Certification**

This program offers employers, regardless of size and industry, the opportunity to explore family-friendly policies and practices to support their parenting and caregiving employees. The program involves an assessment, consultation, peer cohort, and badging to highlight the areas of support provided by employers.



Arvada Chamber Investors



arvadachamber.org

