

A FOUNDATION OF TRUST. A FUTURE OF OPPORTUNITY.

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



JARI 
Growing Your Region

STRONGER TOGETHER

At JARI, collaboration is essential to driving meaningful regional economic development. By partnering with businesses, educational institutions, nonprofits, government agencies, and community organizations, JARI is able to connect resources, share expertise, and create opportunities that have a greater impact across the region.

These partnerships strengthen workforce development, support entrepreneurs, attract investment, and help build vibrant communities throughout Cambria and Somerset counties.

Together, JARI and its partners are creating a stronger, more resilient regional economy for the future.

2025 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS:

650 clients assisted

6,170 counseling hours provided

1,610 jobs created

18,966 jobs retained

137 outreach events reaching
over 8,032 participants



JARI serves the Pennsylvania counties of Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Blair, Fayette, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Indiana.

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends and Partners,

For more than 50 years, JARI has remained committed to strengthening our regional economy by building meaningful partnerships that create opportunity throughout Cambria and Somerset counties. This past year was a powerful reminder that collaboration remains at the heart of everything we do.

Across every department and industry we serve, JARI continues to work alongside businesses, entrepreneurs, educational institutions, government agencies, community organizations, and local leaders to address challenges and create pathways for growth. Whether supporting manufacturers and defense industry partners, assisting small businesses and startups, advancing workforce development initiatives, promoting community revitalization, or fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, our success is made possible through strong regional partnerships.

Together with our partners, we are helping businesses expand, connecting individuals to career opportunities, supporting new investment, and strengthening the overall economic vitality of our communities. These collaborations allow us to respond to the evolving needs of our region while ensuring that progress continues to benefit future generations.

This year also marked an important leadership transition for JARI. After 25 years of dedicated service, we extend our deepest gratitude to Linda Thomson upon her retirement. Linda's leadership, vision, and unwavering commitment to regional economic development have left a lasting impact on our organization and the communities we serve. Her contributions have helped shape JARI into the trusted regional partner it is today, and we thank her for her remarkable legacy of service.

At the same time, we are excited to welcome Brian Galiote as JARI's new President. Brian brings tremendous experience, energy, and passion for our region, and we are confident in his leadership as JARI continues building partnerships that drive innovation, economic opportunity, and community growth.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you to our partners, stakeholders, staff, and supporters for your continued trust and collaboration. The work we accomplish together continues to strengthen our region and position our communities for long-term success.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Stopko

Board Chairman, JARI
President & CEO, AmeriServ Financial

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

72
TRAININGS
SUPPORTING
844
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS

ASSISTED
69
DISLOCATED
WORKERS

7
INDUSTRY TOURS
AND CAREER FAIRS
ENGAGING
700
STUDENTS

Through a vital partnership with JHA, Penn Highlands, and PA CareerLink®, JARI helps facilitate low-to-no-cost training programs for local residents that focus on high-demand fields such as healthcare and transportation.

After moving back to the area, Jasmine LaRue set sights on helping the youth of the community through opening a childcare facility. In 2024, she joined and ultimately graduated from the Johnstown Housing Authority (JHA) Training and Employment Program where she participated in twice-a-week upskilling opportunities and more deeply networked within her community.

Through the program, she received funding through JARI, in partnership with the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, to further her education at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College where she recently received her PA Director Credential Certificate.

Jasmine LaRue



\$92.2M

GOVERNMENT
CONTRACTS
AWARDED TO
APEX CLIENTS

287

ACTIVE APEX
CLIENTS



In partnership with the Cambria Regional Chamber, JARI was proud to host the 34th annual Showcase for Commerce, which announced \$137 million in local defense contracts awarded.



Scan to discover
how JARI helps
businesses navigate the
government marketplace.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING JARI APEX ACCELERATOR



2025 Defense Manufacturing Training Program

Thanks to a grant through the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, JARI partnered with MADE in Johnstown to deliver a no-cost, six-week defense manufacturing training program designed to prepare adults for entry-level careers in the region's growing manufacturing sector. Combining nationally recognized coursework with hands-on experience in the maker space, the program equipped participants with the practical skills employers need most.

Ten individuals enrolled in the program, with six completing all 25 online modules and hands-on activities. Five participants earned the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) nationally recognized Certified Manufacturing Associate (CMfgA) credential through Tooling U-SME, creating a direct pathway into manufacturing careers. Training covered essential industry competencies including CNC, robotics, quality, safety, blueprint reading, lean manufacturing, troubleshooting, and inspection.

To connect participants with family-sustaining career opportunities in Cambria and Somerset Counties, JARI hosted an employer luncheon featuring representatives from regional leaders in manufacturing. Participants were able to network, ask questions, and explore career pathways available right here in the region.

STARTUP ALLEGHENIES ENTREPRENEUR ENRICHMENT SERIES



A workshop in progress at Levity Brewing Company

15
EVENTS HOSTED
EMPOWERING
237
ENTREPRENEURS

The Entrepreneur Enrichment Series, a workshop powered by Appalachian Regional Commission and organized by JARI in partnership with Startup Alleghenies, is a seven-county workshop series to empower, inspire, and support regional entrepreneurs and small businesses through a

variety of topics related to owning a business in a region overflowing with potential including an abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities. The series covered six counties training regional entrepreneurs on a variety of highly demanded topics.



ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

65

OUTREACH EVENTS
REACHING

5,384

PARTICIPANTS

16

CREATIVES
SUPPORTED IN

\$32,000

GRANTS AWARDED

650

BUSINESSES
ASSISTED

6,170

HOURS OF TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO

408

CLIENTS



To meet a community need in downtown Johnstown, JARI Growth Fund secured funding to create an accessible, flexible working space with well-lit private offices and meeting rooms for businesses, entrepreneurs, and remote workers. The CO· offers many perks to members including office supplies, printing capabilities, a kitchenette, and a fully furnished and vibrant space to fuel productivity, connection, & collaboration!

FINANCING



VIDA VERDE
JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY

After losing his parents to cancer and facing his own health scare, Luis “Tony” Hernandez began his transformative wellness journey. Alongside his wife, Marisol, and daughter, Mica, Tony discovered the power of wholesome, plant-based eating. Through embracing

a vegan lifestyle, he found joy in cooking and sharing nourishing, flavorful meals. In the spring of 2025, Vida Verde opened its doors in downtown Johnstown offering a full menu of plant-based items and quickly skyrocketed to one of Johnstown’s most beloved eateries.



TAYLOR ANN’S DELI & CAFÉ
PATTON, CAMBRIA COUNTY

Even before attending college, Taylor Duclo knew she wanted to operate her own restaurant. She found the perfect spot in a former pizza shop, located just three miles from Prince Gallitzin State Park. Taylor Ann’s Deli & Café opened in November 2025.



As a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) and Certified Economic Development Organization (CEDO) in Cambria and Somerset counties, JARI and its affiliates, Johnstown Industrial Development Corporation (JIDC) and JARI Growth Fund (JGF), operate as a

resource for companies of all capacities by facilitating Redevelopment Assistance Capital Programs (RACP), verifying Keystone Innovative Zones (KIZ) / Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ), and providing technical assistance to ensure business success.



FROSTY KORNER

WINDBER, SOMERSET COUNTY

Born and raised in Windber, Nick Anderson spent his youth as a regular at the local ice cream shop – Frosty Korner. Now, after sitting vacant for eight years, Nick decided to invest in the community by purchasing and reopening the well-known “Frosty Korner” in April 2025.



LUX MEDICAL AESTHETICS

SOMERSET, SOMERSET COUNTY

In 2025, Crystal Pepper celebrated the opening of Lux Medical Aesthetics – a luxury medspa located in a beautifully remodeled building in Somerset. No stranger to entrepreneurship, Crystal owns and operates several other small businesses and manages commercial properties where she helps other small business owners grow their brand.

\$8.925M

IN ACTIVE RACP
PROJECTS

\$129,749

AWARDED IN
TAX CREDITS

83

LOANS CLOSED
TOTALING
\$2.367M

Scan to review potential
locations to start, grow, or
expand your business.



THANK YOU!

**OUR PROGRAMS COULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT OUR
FUND DRIVE, NAP TAX, AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS ALONG
WITH OUR ON-GOING FUNDING SOURCES.**

1st Summit Bank	Fleegle Cinemas	Martin-Baker America, Inc.
Adelphoi Village	GapVax	McAneny Brothers, Inc.
AED Brands	Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies	McIlwain School Bus Lines
Aetna Better Health Kids/CHIP	Grainger, Inc.	North American Höganäs
AmeriServ Financial, Inc.	Greater Johnstown Career & Technology Center	Northwest Bank
Arbon Equipment Corporation	Gvozdoch Law	Oasis Styling Salon and Spa
ARM Camco LLC	H.F. Lenz Engineering	PA CareerLink® Cambria County
AT&T	Help At Home	Park Lane Jewelry - Anne Herr
Barbara Laslo	Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Penn Machine Company
Bayada Home Health Care	Innovative Tomato	Pennsylvania Army National Guard
Big Dogz Bar and Grill	It's Tantalizing	Pennsylvania Highlands Community College
Cintas	Johnstown Housing Authority	Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Classic Elements	Johnstown Redevelopment Authority	PRO-AM Safety, Inc.
Concurrent Technologies Corporation	JWF Industries	Renewal by Anderson
Conemaugh Health System of Duke LifePoint Healthcare	Kongsberg Defense and Aerospace, Inc.	RJR Safety Inc
Corle Building Systems, Inc.	Kovach Business Solutions, LLC	Safari Contract Cleaners
County of Cambria	Laurel Highlands Construction Supplies & Rentals, Inc.	Senior Life PA
County of Somerset	Laurel Highlands Golf Academy	Seven Mountains Media
Crown American Associates	Laurel Holdings	Somerset Trust Company
Croyle-Nielsen Therapeutic Associates, Inc.	Laurel View Village	Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board
Damin Printing	Leonardo DRS	The Learning Lamp
Distinctive Human Services	Lockheed Martin AeroParts, Inc.	Wessel & Company
Ener-Gel Insoles	M&M's Hair Design	Windber Woods Senior Living & Rehabilitation Center
Firehouse Subs - Johnstown	Mac's Tire and Design	WorkLink Staffing
First National Bank of PA		

CURRENT JARI STAFF

Brian Galiote – President & CEO

Tasha Adams – Marketing & Outreach Specialist

Holly Bodolosky – Staff Accountant

Michele Clapper – Vice President,
Economic Development

Amanda Englehart-Miller – Executive Assistant

JARI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman – **Jeffrey A. Stopko** – CEO,
AmeriServ Financial

First Vice Chairman – **William J. Locher, Jr.** –
Senior Vice President, Somerset Trust Company

Second Vice Chairman – **Matthew C. Johnson** -
General Manager, Martin-Baker America

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Pennsylvania Highlands Community College

Assistant Secretary – **Kyle C. Kunkle** – Vice
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Treasurer – **John E. Klein** – CFO/Treasurer,
Concurrent Technologies Corporation

Assistant Treasurer – **Gregory J. Winger, Sr.** –
Vice President, First National Bank
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Community Foundation for the Alleghenies

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Lending Officer, 1st Summit Bank

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Banker II, First National Bank of Pennsylvania

Assistant Secretary – **Michele L. Clapper** –
Executive Director, JIDC

Assistant Secretary – **Brenda Fike** – Chief
Financial Officer, JIDC

Treasurer – **Kevin M. Volk** – Vice President/
Commerical Loan Officer, Somerset Trust Company

Robert J. Cabala – Senior Vice President/Area
Executive, AmeriServ Financial

JARI GROWTH FUND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Executive Director, Southern Alleghenies Planning
and Development Commission

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Tableland Services, Inc.

Secretary – **Karen Struble Myers** – President,
United Way of the Laurel Highlands

Assistant Secretary – **Michele L. Clapper** –
Executive Director, JGF

Blake Fleegle – Entrepreneurial Coach

Dave Grimaldi – Director,
Workforce Development

Evan Kundrod – Director of Finance

Lorie E. G. Singer – Defense Program Director,
APEX Accelerator

Bryan Young – Administrative Professional

Thomas F. Deter - Principal, H.F. Lenz Co.

William C. Polacek – President, JWF Industries

Christopher J. Overdorff – Vice President-
Operations, Quaker Sales

John N. McKeegan, J.D – President, Mount
Aloysius College

Gregory D. Glosser – President, M. Glosser & Sons

Joseph P. Kelly, Jr. – President, 1st Summit Bank

Rodney Reider – Market President and CEO, DLP
Conemaugh Health System

David B. Zucco – Site Director, Kongsberg
Defense US

Regina E. Coughenour – Executive Director,
Somerset, Inc.

Melissa Menie – President, Advanced
Shipping Technologies

David J. Mrozowski

Lisa Shirt – Vice President / Commercial
Business Development Officer, InFirst Bank

Ethan Stewart – Investment Advisor, Centennial
Financial Group

Charity Voland – Chief Executive Officer, Camco
Physical Therapy

Assistant Secretary – **Brenda Fike** – Chief Financial
Officer, JGF

Treasurer – **Russell F. Kiel** – Chairman, Cambria
County Alliance for Business & Industry - Owner,
Kiel Construction

Michael P. Alberts – Executive Director,
Johnstown Housing Authority

Rev. Sylvia J. King – Community Development
Officer, AmeriServ Financial

Rose M. Lucey-Noll – Executive Director, CamTran

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS CO-CHAIRS

CAMBRIA/SOMERSET BUSINESS & EDUCATION

Mike Dadey – Assistant to the Superintendent,
Greater Johnstown School District

CAMBRIA/SOMERSET HEALTHCARE

Linda L. Fox – Recruitment & Retention
Coordinator, Conemaugh Health System of Duke
LifePoint Healthcare

Chad P. Kamler – Assistant Administrator,
Arbutus Park Retirement Community

CAMBRIA/SOMERSET ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Lindsey Hilbrecht – Manager–Human Resources,
North American Höganäs

CAMBRIA/SOMERSET SAFETY

David R. Johnson – EHS Manager,
North American Höganäs

Andrew Mazzarese – Safety Specialist,
Leonardo DRS

DEFENSE BUSINESS COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chair – **Edward J. Sheehan, Jr.**

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Kongsberg Defense US

David B. Bjornberg – Director, Engineering
Solutions & Manufacturing, Compass Systems

Wayne C. Davis – General Manager/Site Lead,
Lockheed Martin AeroParts

Robert J. Eyer – Shareholder Emeritus,
Wessel & Company

James J. Fisher – VP/COO, NCDMM

Steven Friberg – President, UXV Technologies

Frederik Bergenfelt Friis – CSO & Director for
Global Public Affairs, UXV Technologies

Adam S. Henger – Regional Director - Business
Development, Colliers Engineering & Design

Matthew C. Johnson – General Manager,
Martin-Baker America

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Director, JWF Defense

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Carl R. Sax

Gary M. Tarallo – Managing Director,
Kitron Group

Wayne R. Tilley – V.P./General Manager,
BCL Manufacturing, Inc.

**JARI IS THE LEADING COLLABORATIVE
FORCE THAT ENHANCES ASPECTS OF
OUR REGION THAT GROWS A DIVERSE
ECONOMY AND BUILDS VIBRANT
COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES.**



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