

## MIDCOR's executive director explains mission

By Corey L. Murphy

The Madison-Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation or MIDCOR is a not-for-profit agency which was founded in 1983. It consists of a board of volunteer community leaders who are dedicated to economic vitality in this community. Along with active volunteers, MIDCOR has an Executive Director and an Administrative Assistant. The office is located in the Venture Out Business Center on Industrial Drive.

The mission of MIDCOR is to improve the economic climate of Jefferson County, to recruit new industries and to retain and expand existing industries, which improve the quality of life in this area.

MIDCOR provides the forum for outside companies to confidentially gather and share information as they make investment decisions. Equally as important, MIDCOR serves as a resource and liaison for existing industry to local, state and federal government programs, etc.

MIDCOR has helped local companies with their expansion plans and since 2004 there have been committed investments of \$125 million, creating 358 new jobs while retaining over 1,500 jobs. The recent employment ads from several local companies are positive. The local expansion of Arvin-Sango is also good news.

MIDCOR also participates in special projects that help improve the climate for positive economic development to occur. An example of this is the coordination of the shovel ready work for the industrial park so it is development ready. Completing this assessment work provides an advantage for the site as businesses making investment decisions will not have to spend a minimum of 90 days completing all the work. For more information on the shovel ready process, please visit <http://www.in.gov/iedc/shovel/>.

MIDCOR is a private agency working for the public good. Confidentiality is paramount in business. MIDCOR will be as transparent as possible, while still maintaining the trust that businesses demand. Please contact me at 265-4769 if you have any questions about the work of MIDCOR or check out our website at [www.midcor.com](http://www.midcor.com).

Economic development is a team effort that requires the support and cooperation of many partners within the community. MIDCOR is pleased to be one of many local partners working to create a better Jefferson County.

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Murphy is a graduate of the University of Evansville. He serves as the executive director of MIDCOR.