

Executive Director Reflections

- 1) What are the “key ingredients” for a successful EDD-EDA partnership?
- 2) Share the story of one EDA-funded project you are particularly proud of for its impact on your region.
- 3) Give one piece of advice for 1) EDA staff and 2) EDD staff for how to best position EDDs for success in the future.



Bonnie Prigge
Executive Director
Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MO)

**What are the “key ingredients”
for a successful EDD-EDA partnership?**

1. COMMUNICATION

2. COMMUNICATION

3. COMMUNICATION



MRPC SUCCESS!

State Technical College of Missouri Utility Center

50,000 SF building State Tech Campus: Linn, MO
Total Project: \$5.017 M. + EDA Grant: \$2M
Completed in time for Spring Semester 2022 (Jan. 2022)

MRPC provided grant writing and grant administration

- Goal: To provide more trained Utility Technicians for power, broadband, gas, water and wastewater sectors to meet growing demand of utilities industries.
- One graduating class trained so far: 100 students—100% placement; 210 students now in training + additional 100 heavy equipment operators.
- 40 employers hiring students trained through Utility Center
- Spurred another \$12M in investment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kY24dlsnUNU>



COMMUNICATION

FOR EDA STAFF:

- Communicate...even when there is nothing new
- Get to know your EDDS and visit with them
- Don't say 'NO!'



FOR EDD STAFF:

- Communicate
- Get to know your EDA staff, especially your EDR
- Know your fellow directors and seek their guidance
- Learn and understand EDA programs ...Ask Questions
- Work your CEDS
- Know your local leaders...Be involved...Be their GO-TO!

