Collaborative Partnerships:

Advocacy

• Helped establish a community lobbying coalition.

Downtown Revitalization

• Supported the numerous efforts to revitalize the City of Hagerstown including: parking projects, creation of a Main Street initiative, streetscape improvements, enhancements of downtown festivals, etc.

Education

- Supported successful effort to gain \$11.5 million in State capital funding for our Regional Library expansion.
- Studied, developed, and promoted the financing model to build The Barbara Ingram School For The Arts.
- Formed OnTrack, a local cradle-to-career network of support, empowering individuals to maximize their potential to secure a rewarding career. <u>www.OnTrackWC.org</u> ontrack
- Created a template for a Washington County Promise Program that would provide free tuition at local educational institutions.
- Created an annual FAFSA Frenzy event for high school seniors and parents to receive help filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms.

Foreign Trade Zone

• Catalyzed the process leading to the establishment of a General Purpose Foreign Trade Zone at the Hagerstown -Washington County Airport.

Healthcare

• Advanced and facilitated community initiatives to reduce teen pregnancy.

Leadership Development

 Assisted in creation of Leadership Washington County: www.leadershipwashingtoncounty.org

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Transportation

- Secured state funding for I-81 improvements.
- Supported efforts to build an Airport Runway Extension at our Regional Airport (HGR).
 Katestown Action



OUR PURPOSE:

The Greater Hagerstown Committee (GHC), a 501c(3) non-profit organization, was established in 1987 to bring stakeholders and community leaders together to discuss broad issues of importance in Washington County. Since its inception, GHC has served as a community catalyst recruiting people, gathering information, identifying resources, and crafting the conversation necessary to advance initiatives that make our region a better place to live, work, and play. GHC does not desire to compete with other organizations, nor do we seek recognition for our contributions. Rather, GHC strives to work collaboratively with community organizations and government bodies in achieving community goals.



More information (member list, publications, history, etc.) is available on our website: www.greaterhagerstown.org Or contact: James F. Kercheval, Executive Director Email: jkercheval@greaterhagerstown.org Phone: (301) 733-8811



Greater Hagerstown Committee

Mission:

Identify community needs and apply the time and talents of each member to be a catalyst for consensus and change.



EST. 1987

5 Public Square, Suite 601 Hagerstown, MD 21740 (301) 733-8811 www.greaterhagerstown.org

What is Greater Hagerstown?

The Greater Hagerstown Committee was started in 1987 by a group of community leaders focused on improving the quality of life in Washington County. The organizational structure chosen was modeled after The Greater Salisbury Committee and other "greater committees" currently in Maryland and Wisconsin. "Greater" refers to an inclusive geographic area, and a broad, long-term view of the civic issues which affect that area.

Our membership is diverse and includes senior leadership from large companies, small businesses, human service agencies, educational and cultural institutions, and ex-officio members from the public sector.

Who makes a good member?

Someone who:

- Is in a senior leadership position within their company or organization
- Is willing to give of his/her time, talent, and resources for the good of the region without thought of personal gain
- Wants to work together to be a catalyst for conversation and a driver of change and growth in our community
- Is willing to use their voice, influence, and passion to better our region



Investing in our community

*Based on a 2015 GHC Member Survey



When and Where

The GHC office is located at 5 Public Square, Suite 601 in downtown Hagerstown. Regular membership meetings are held on the last Friday of each month at 7:30 a.m., at Robinwood Medical Center, except December, July, and August. Subgroup committees/ forums meet monthly at the GHC office.



GHC is a way to stay plugged-in to our community and to be a part of something "greater" than yourself. It provides an opportunity to forge lasting relationships with local business leaders, who have a common goal of improving the quality of life in Washington County.

Our members participate without individual agendas or need for personal recognition. They know how to get things done and are willing to roll up their sleeves, use their influence and financial resources, and work collaboratively to create positive changes within Washington County.

GHC is completely self-funded through membership dues. We do not seek outside grants or sponsorships for operational costs, which allows us to remain impartial and to focus on what is best for our community. GHC offers a variety of options and opportunities for members to be involved, so the question then becomes... Why not GHC?

