**LEADVILLE LAKE COUNTY RECEIVES ‘SMALL COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR’ FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF COLORADO**

*Top people, places and projects in economic development honored at annual awards*

*dinner and ceremony.*

**STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO** (Oct. 21, 2021) – Leadville Lake County was awarded the ‘Small Community of the Year’ award for 2021. The honor was presented at EDCC’s annual EDIE Awards Ceremony held in conjunction with its annual Drive|Lead|Succeed Conference held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado last week.

 “The collaboration between our businesses, non-profits, and governmental entities is effective the constant. The focus is always, how can we work together to serve our community.” John Wells – President Leadville Lake County Economic Development Corp.

Since 1989, EDCC has recognized nearly 200 members, volunteers, communities, companies, and legislators for their outstanding achievement in economic development in the State of Colorado. This year, EDCC celebrated the achievements of 10 individuals, communities, partners, and legislators.

**Leadville Lake County was selected this year as the ‘Small Community of the Year’ for its achievements in the following activities:**

* **It’s abiding commitment and dedication to its Economic Development Organization**
* **Collaboration among all its Economic Development partners within the county to align resources and strategies for the betterment of the community**
* **It’s continued support for its small businesses and citizens especially during a time of disruption caused by the pandemic.**

“The Commissioners are grateful for the commitment the LLCEDC has to ensuring community success, without them and their drive to keep our community thriving we would not have been able to be successful through COVID. Having new staff at the start of the pandemic that have been able to develop trusting and collaborative relationships is something we should be proud of, and know can’t be replicated.” Lake County Board of Commissioners

“This year’s winners represent Colorado’s best economic development achievements that contribute to the overall health and vibrancy for Colorado’s communities,” said 2021 EDCC Board Chair and Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, Executive Director, Laura Lewis Marchino. “We are so proud to recognize and showcase these individuals and organizations, that improve the quality of life for our citizens.”

Each of these winners, give a glimpse into what our professionals and stakeholders - here in Colorado -  are doing, in keeping Colorado’s economy moving forward. More than ever, the value and importance of sustainable economic development, needs to be shined upon as we power the great economic comeback. EDCC is honored to represent these winners and their important work and achievements.

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**About the Economic Development Council of Colorado:**
Established in 1976, the Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC) promotes effective, responsible economic development across Colorado. Today we are the state’s premier economic development resource, representing the economic development interests of both the private and public sectors throughout the state. We connect our communities, our members and our partners to high-quality educational opportunities and trusted resources, and advocate for sound policies and programs that support a vibrant economy and enhance quality of life for all of Colorado.

EDCC members come from a variety of settings. We are rural and urban, public, and private sector, for profit and not-for-profit, and include individual communities, counties and regional organizations, local and state government, chambers of commerce, universities, and private industry. We are economic development professionals, community volunteers, and business and political leaders. For more information on EDCC, follow us on Twitter and Facebook. To become involved with EDCC visit us at [www.edcconline.org](http://www.edcconline.org/) or email us at edcc@edcconline.org.