



MCDO MISSION STATEMENT

The Marion Community Development Organization (MCDO) is an organization under the laws of the State of Ohio, not-for-profit. The mission of the organization shall be to act as a coordinating body to assist local organizations meet the changing needs of the Marion Community through planned development while maintaining its agricultural profile. The activities will be directed toward, but not limited to, development of infrastructure, housing, family care, education, small business, recreation, and agriculture.

President, Ted Bertke called the January meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on Tuesday, January 20th, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the Marion Township Building.

TREASURER REPORT:

Deb Otte presented the financial report. The report for the month ending December 31, 2025, is as follows:

Total Cash Balance: \$340,703

<i>Cash Summaries</i>		<i>Organization Fund Summaries</i>	
Checking	\$281,953	Recreation Fund	\$37,293
CD's	\$22,365	General Fund – MCDO	\$33,178
Savings	\$36,384	Marion Soccer	\$11,549
Total Cash	\$340,703	Girls' Softball	\$9,600
		ML FFA	\$26,050
		ML FFA Pork Producers	\$25,121
		Boys Baseball	\$39,914
		Ag Ed Boosters	\$32,133
		Ag Ed Scholarship	\$1,000
		ML Bowling	\$848
		Marion Industrial Park Association	\$27,332
		Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	\$798
		Multi-Use Path	\$61,950
		Fundamental League	\$8,238
		Girls Youth Basketball	\$2,903
		Boys Youth Basketball	\$3,532
		Carthage Park	\$19,263
		Total Organization Funds	\$340,703

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. RECREATION COMMITTEE: *Committee Chairperson – Doug Bender*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

December 22: Ted & Sara Mescher

December 29: Eric & Alyssa Anderson

January 5: Brian & Brenda Kremer

January 12: Jesse & Karen Rose

January 19, 2026: Mark Hardesty & Mitch Michalak

2. MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE: *Committee Chairperson –Allison Moeller*

To all the families and businesses who supported the Marion Community Development Organization in 2025 through your annual membership, thank you! We appreciate your commitment to our community.

MCDO is the umbrella group that helps the facilitation of our community through fund management of various organizations. These include Marion Local FFA, Marion Township Greenway Bike Path, Chapel Hill Preschool, and many youth sports activities in conjunction with the 301 Club. This generates growth for infrastructure and business development, agricultural education for our students, agricultural solutions for farmers, and housing development.

Every membership is invested locally, for the benefit of all current and future residents and generations! The 2026 membership drive is underway, please see a link to the membership form on this email or on page 4. We would appreciate your support in 2026!

3. HOUSING: *Committee Chairperson – Bob Unrast*

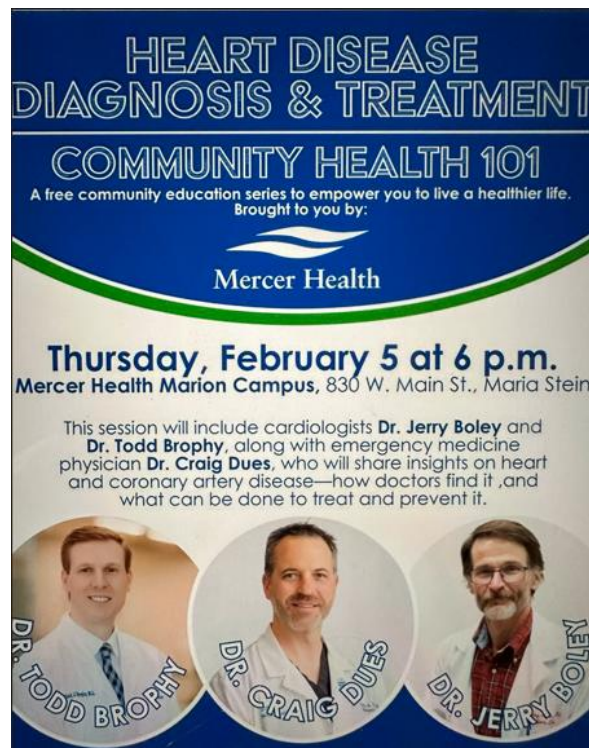
The St. Francis housing development south of Chickasaw has four building lots available. The lots are between .381 and .711 acres starting at \$28,500 and include village water and sewage. Contact Tess Mescher for more information at 419-305-0106.

The Woodview Estates subdivision still has lots available for sale. For more information, please contact Jay Ruhenkamp at 937-295-4244.

Dan Jutte has a development underway off Jackson Street. Please contact him at 419-733-0053 for more information on the available lots.

Osgood has residential lots and a commercial lot for sale through Arling Real Estate. This development is on the west end of town off State Route 705 and Mendenhall Road to the north of OPPAC and Osgood Community Veterans Center. Please contact Brandon Arling at 567-644-4851 for details.

4. HEALTH, EDUCATION, & SAFETY: *Committee Chairperson – Lisa Buschur*



5. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: *Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

The FFA chapter is in the middle of evaluation season, which includes State Degrees, American Degrees, Officer Books and the National Chapter Award. Members are also preparing for contests, with Ag Sales, greenhand quiz and public speaking being the most imminent. Members are going to be trying their hands at floriculture, agronomy, dairy evaluation, livestock judging, and mechanical skills. FFA week will be February 23rd through the 27th. The Community Breakfast will be in the high school commons on Wednesday, February 25th from 7 am to 9 am.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- There are lots available in the Maria Stein Industrial Park. If you are interested, please reach out to Gary Moeller at 419-305-4511
- If anyone is interested in joining the MCDO Board in any capacity, please contact Deb Otte at admin@marioncommunities.com.
- The MCDO will be holding a Community Address Luncheon on Sunday, March 8th at the Maria Stein American Legion. Doors open at 12:15 with lunch at 12:30. Senator Susan Manchester will be speaking. Tickets are \$10. Please Venmo or email admin@marioncommunities.com to reserve yours today!

VILLAGES, TOWNSHIP, PARKS, & SCHOOL REPORTS:

1. **Carthagen Park Report** – To reserve the park please call Nancy Koesters at 419-925-5192.
2. **Chickasaw** – No new information to report.
3. **Chickasaw Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters (both the VFW and Ball Diamond), contact AJ Homan at 419-733-1171.
4. **Osgood** – No new information to report.
5. **Osgood Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters, call Nick Beasley at 937-621-7718.
6. **Marion Township** – No new information to report.
7. **Marion Township Park Board Report** – Please follow Marion Township Park on **Facebook (Marion Township Park)** and on **Twitter (@MarionTwpPark)**. You can also contact us through email: mariontwppk@gmail.com.
The Monthly Park Raffle Winners for January are as follows:

\$50 – John & Nancy Pohlman

\$30 – Andy & Missy Spieth

\$25 – Art & Joyce Moeller

\$25 – Bart Homan

8. **Marion Local Schools** – Due to a misunderstanding of the Board of Elections' petition circular statement, the ML Board had an open member seat as of 1/1/2026. The Board was allowed to appoint a member to this position and Jesse Rose was chosen to fill the open seat. Kindergarten Registration will begin in February and anyone knowing that their son or daughter will be going to Kindergarten in the 2026-2027 School Year should complete this form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfVD9l4FzQeptiono2smDv8_DwHczF7SQng2WnJclwYL5HNk8A/viewform. Any additional questions should be directed to the Elementary Office at 419-925-4597. Finally, ML High School required testing dates are scheduled for April 13-14, 22-23, 27-28. Please try to schedule any appointments outside of these dates.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 am. The next MCDO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 17th, 2025, at 7:30 a.m. in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Ted Bertke, President

Board of Directors

Ted Bertke, President	419-852-1072
Deb Otte, Secretary	419-305-4014
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Deb Otte, Coordinator	419-305-4014

Committee Chairpersons

Agricultural Development:	Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	Jill Nagel 419-925-9101
Health, Safety & Education:	Lisa Buschur 419-305-0858
Housing:	Bob Unrast 419-305-4485
Infrastructure:	Nick Moeller 619-884-9958
Membership:	Allison Moeller 567-644-5207
Recreation:	Luke Bertke 419-953-6114

2026 MCDO Membership Form

2 Membership Form Options:

- Complete the online form at <http://marioncommunities.com>.
- Complete and mail the membership form below.

MCDO Membership Business \$60 / Family \$15			
Name:			
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Email:			
Phone:		Date:	

3 Payment Options:

- Please make checks payable to: Marion Community Development Organization
 - Please send remittance to: MCDO - PO Box 65 - Maria Stein, OH 45860
- Pay by Venmo - Username: @MarionCommunity-DevelopmentOrg
 - (Please include "MCDO Membership" in Description)
- Pay by Paypal: paypal.me/marioncommdeveloporg

Marion Community Develop...
@MarionCommunity-DevelopmentOrg



Marion Community Development Organization
Box 65
Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065