

State of Small Business Symposium | 2026

June 24 & 25,
Cleveland, OH



Suzie Graham Moore
Director of Economic Development
City of Akron

Suzie serves the citizens of Akron as the Director of Economic Development for the City of Akron.

For over twelve years, Suzie Graham Moore served as President and CEO of Downtown Akron Partnership. With a keen focus on safety, beautification, creative placemaking, planning and economic development, she and her team worked to elevate the entire downtown Akron experience. Her strategic initiatives, including the first of its kind consensus-led Downtown Akron Vision and Redevelopment Plan, ignited downtown residential growth, attracted over \$200M in private investment and laid a path for ongoing neighborhood planning to benefit the entire city. Under her leadership, Suzie's innovative small business support programs have successfully attracted, retained and grown businesses while increasing storefront ownership by people of color.

Before her role at DAP, Suzie's dedication to community building spanned over 18 years of public service with the City of Akron. From supervising recreation centers and public pools to developing innovative programming at Lock 3, she laid the groundwork for impactful programming for Akron residents.

A Summa Cum Laude graduate of Kent State University, a member of Leadership Akron Class 29 and a 2015 Presidio Institute Cross Sector Leadership Fellow, she has had the benefit of learning from both local and national expertise. Her commitment to the community is evident in her role as an Akron core team member in the national Reimagining the Civic Commons cohort since 2016 and her service on the Board of Directors of Peg's Foundation.

Suzie is honored to have been recognized by the 2012 GAR Glass Half Full Award, the 2017 Margaret Clark Morgan Impact Award for Community Leadership and the 2019 Akron Summit Convention and Visitors Bureau Chairman's Award.

Suzie, her husband and two children, proudly call Akron home.