

**PRESS RELEASE / April 2009**

Contact : Sue Douglass, 740-695-9678

RE: Appointment to EODA Board

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Upon recommendation of the Belmont County Commissioners, Dale Hileman, Executive Director of the Eastern Ohio Development Alliance (EODA ) announces the appointment of Susan Douglass to the EODA Board . Each of the 16 counties in EODA appoints 2 members to the board . Douglass is the Executive Director of the Belmont County Department of Development Community Improvement Corporation ( DOD/CIC) and joins Dr, Joseph Bukowski , president of Belmont Technical College, to serve on the EODA board.

EODA is an independent , non-profit association made up of representatives from business, industry, organizations, governments, and communities joining together as partners to stimulate the economic development and enhance the quality of life in Eastern Ohio . It provides in-depth resources for businesses seeking to find the right place to settle.

“ EODA is an excellent resource for all of us in Eastern Ohio . It encourages the business community to interact with each other, maximize resources, and build more solid successes”, said Douglass. “I have known and worked with them for several years. Being an official part of this unique organization is a privilege, and I look forward to being part of the team”.

The late Don Myers was the long-standing president of EODA. As EODA Director Hileman noted, “He was a man of deep compassion. He was a giant “. Myers is highly regarded for all of his work in area economic development.

“ I had so hoped Don and I would be working together”, continues Douglass. “ While our loss of him is profound, the legacy he left is invaluable , and the impact he continues to have on our work will last as he remains an inspirational and energizing force “.

Douglass also urges local members of the community to read more about EODA , [www.eoda.org](http://www.eoda.org) , and consider becoming a member. For more information, call the DOD/CIC office at 740-695-9678, or call EODA directly at 1-800-268-EODA.