

How PEOs Empower Business Owners & Keep Them in Control

PEOs act as partners to the businesses they work with, helping them stay in control and empowering them to achieve all they can. To illustrate this, PRemployer hosted a panel of local leaders and business owners to have them explain in their own words how their PEO partnership has helped them.

The full panel is **available to view here**, but we've compiled some of the highlights below, lightly edited for space and clarity.

On a daily basis, how often do you actively notice your PEO?

"This has been a life changer for our business. We are fortunate enough, because of our business complexity, we have an onsite representative for our PEO. Having somebody right here to help with all the different processes from onboarding new employees to disciplinary issues. Having her onsite has really helped our day-to-day operations tremendously."

About the Panelists



Chris Suddarth President and Managing Member *TriState Graphics*

Dana-Marie Lemmer Executive Director and Curator *Wiregrass Museum of Art (WMA)*



Tennille Finch Associate Administrator Eye Center South

--Tennille

What lesson did you learn the hard way when starting your business?

Was your PEO partner able to offer guidance once you started to work together?

For us, when we started out, we were starting from zero, and so having that partner in our PEO allowed us to develop the foundation for all of our employee practices. We were able to adapt that to our unique work culture and the work culture we wanted to provide to our employees and team. But of course, having the PEO, we were making sure we were still being compliant and had the checks and balances in place. That has been really valuable to us.

What is the biggest task that used to take up a lot of time that your PEO now handles for you?

"We use the PRuniversity platform a lot. We do a lot of education and training in our facility, and our PEO has a platform call PRU. We took all of over paper trainings or screenshot type trainings, and they turned them into videos modules for us. We have modules for all different things, and they live on PRU, so when a new employee comes in, they have sets of modules to watch."

--Tennille

How well have you been able to achieve your business goals since partnering with PRemployer?

When we started looking into the path of partnering with a PEO, we only had 5 locations at the time, 1 large location and 4 very small locations. We were handling this in house and were okay, but the next step in our company and what we want to do [was] much bigger. We were in a growth stage, and since then we went from having 5 locations to 14. We would not have been able to have the infrastructure and focus on those large items and fine tuning what we need to if we had to continue to do all the onboarding and payroll ourselves. It has really allowed us to be in a growth stage without worrying about all those super important tasks ourselves.

--Tennille

What measures do you take to support your staff and prioritize their learning and development?

When I first engaged with PRemployer, a lot of it was talking about benefits. At that time, we probably had 10 to 12 employees. I could not afford to do health insurance myself. So, when I started looking at it, just the savings of the health insurance paid for their services. But little did I know what else came with the services. When you start valuing your employees enough to add health insurance, dental insurance, vision care, and retirement planning, I think the employees understand there's a commitment we're making to them and a financial commitment we make to them that we don't have to do but we want to do.

--Chris

Have you ever needed your PEO to step in and "save the day" (ie due to a payroll or HR issue)?

Sometimes you don't know what you don't know. We know people, but we don't know the law or the requirements, and when a little mistake can turn into a big mistake. Through the PEO, you've got a plethora of skillsets behind the scenes you can lean on whether it's legal, payroll, IRS issues with the payroll taxes. Those breadth of services that are available that you can just make a phone call or shoot an email, start the ball rolling, and get the right answer quickly.

--Chris