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Growing financial services firm moves into new office at Austin Landing

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A financial services company growing its Dayton-area presence has moved into a new building at Austin Landing.

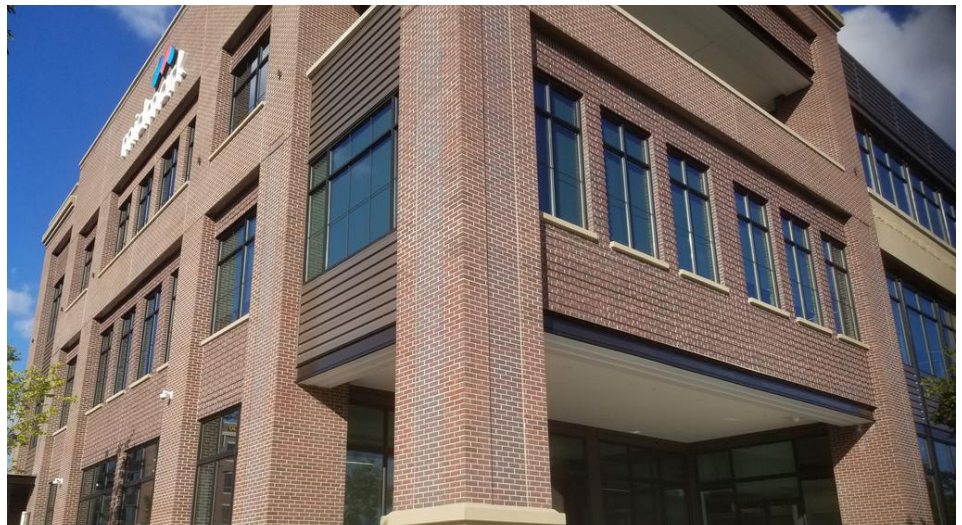
Baird, an international wealth management, asset management, investment banking and private equity firm, recently moved from Centerville to the new Midmark building at Austin Landing, which is located in Miami Township. With the relocation, Baird more than doubled its local footprint.

On Thursday, Baird held an open house to show off its new digs and allow clients to meet with the staff. A number of high-level executives were present, including Baird President and CEO Steve Booth, along with other senior leaders.

Booth said the Dayton area is a “very natural market for us,” and is a good fit for the company’s mission.

“Baird is a values and culture-based firm, so we lead with a client-first mentality,” he said. “We believe in things like integrity and doing things the right way, and things like that resonate with our clients in Dayton. That’s what I mean when I say it’s a natural market for us.”

Baird Market Director Brian Kurtz said the company’s 20 associates are “thrilled” with the new office, as are the company’s clients.



Baird occupies first floor space at the Midmark building, which is located at 10170 Penny Lane in Miami Township.

“We love it, our clients love it and we feel like we’re right in the middle of everything here at Austin Landing,” Kurtz said. “We really feel like we’re a part of something here.”

Baird is located on the first floor of the Midmark building, occupying 11,500 square feet with room to grow. Kurtz said they could fit another six to eight financial advisers, but he cautioned their growth will center around finding the right people.

“We will build with people, we won’t just build to build,” he said. “It’s about finding the right folks.”

Kurtz and Booth agreed Baird has a competitive advantage over its competitors because it is privately held and employee owned. Booth said two-thirds of the company’s 4,400 associates

are shareholders, and he’d like to see that number grow.

“I think the single most important thing about us is we’re privately held and employee owned,” he said, noting Baird is one of the largest employee-owned, privately held investment banks in the United States. “I think that’s important in attracting the right people.”

In addition to the new office, Baird is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a company. For Booth, a longstanding company like Baird and an established city such as Dayton fit well together.

“Dayton is a long established city in Ohio with a lot of great, longstanding companies,” he said. “I think the things we value are valued by our people and clients in Dayton, so it all fits together.”