

# Annual Report

July 2024 - June 2025



**YEARS of**  
**Community • Commerce • Commitment**



**Randolph County, NC Economic Development Corporation**

*Expanding Opportunities in the Heart of North Carolina*

**FY25**

[RCEDC.com](http://RCEDC.com)



# A Message From Our Chair - Fred Smith

As we conclude the 39th year of success for the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation and prepare to enter a landmark 40th year, we take pride in celebrating our achievements. These accomplishments are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our community leaders, municipal and county staff, elected officials, state and federal legislators, educators, and the EDC staff and board—all united by a common goal: fostering a sustainable quality of life, both economically and culturally, for all who reside here.

Without hesitation, I acknowledge the debt of gratitude we owe to our core legacy—our industrial, business, and agricultural communities—and to the entrepreneurial spirit of those who have sustained our economy through successes, economic downturns, and even a global pandemic. Whether no longer with us or flourishing today, we honor these companies and citizens with sincere appreciation and admiration.

This year, following a period of several large announcements, we return to a more typical pace of growth. The impact of the dynamic growth we have experienced will be felt for many years to come. We are excited about recent successes, including the expansion of Eastern Steel Works, which announced a \$290,000 investment and the creation of three new jobs. Additionally, Gillespie Precast, now occupying the former Hughes Furniture Industry site, is bringing a \$9 million investment and sixty new jobs to Randolph County.

Looking ahead, the Randolph County EDC continues to explore new opportunities for business park locations, such as the 311 South site just across from the Ross distribution property, as well as a second, undisclosed location in Asheboro. A shining example of successful collaboration between private investment and county and state support is the New Hope Church Road site—a testament to the entrepreneurial spirit of our local community.

I encourage you to revisit the five strategic initiatives and priorities developed as part of the Randolph Rises Campaign. These directives provide essential focus as we move through the remaining three years of that plan. The Randolph County Economic Development Corporation's staff remains ready and eager to facilitate new investment in Randolph County and to serve as a catalyst in addressing the challenges that accompany growth.

If you are an investor or affiliate member of the RCEDC, you or your organization have likely been contacted by staff to share your opinions and company needs. Should you have any issues or ideas that could benefit others, please reach out to President Kevin Franklin or any member of our staff or board—we want to hear from you. Together, we continue to build partnerships for the future.

On behalf of the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation and the RCEDC Board of Directors, I extend our sincere appreciation for your support and participation as we work together toward a prosperous future for Randolph County.

## Our Impact 2024-2025



**Total New  
Jobs  
63**



**Investment  
\$9,990,000**



**Grants  
Awarded  
\$230,000**



**Site & Building  
Requests/  
Responded to  
133/52**



**Marketing  
Trips  
7**



**Website  
Page Views  
34,000**

# Celebrating 40 Years of Economic Impact - Kevin Franklin, President

## A Legacy of Vision, Collaboration, and Planning: Celebrating 40 Years of Economic Impact in Randolph County

Forty years ago, Randolph County's leaders had the foresight to imagine a future built on industrial strength, community collaboration, and strategic growth. What began as a bold vision has evolved into a powerful force for economic development—one that has transformed landscapes, attracted investment from world-class companies, and positioned Randolph County as a key player in the region, state, and beyond.

It all started with a purpose – and a plan.

In 1985, the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation (RCEDC) was established with a singular mission: county-wide industrial development. Under the leadership of founding president Walt Sprouse, the organization laid strong foundations. Local governments have also been vital partners, leveraging and maintaining essential public-private partnerships, even as RCEDC leadership has transitioned over the decades from Sprouse, to Bonnie Renfro, to Kevin Franklin.

**A Timeline of Transformation** – Over the past 40 years, careful planning and sustained collaboration have reshaped the county and its place in the region. RCEDC has either benefited from or been directly engaged in a number of these initiatives, a sampling of which includes:

- **Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority:** After decades of planning and preparation, the Randleman dam was completed in 2004, and the water treatment plant began operations in 2010—providing essential infrastructure for future regional growth.
- **I-73/74 and US 64 Bypass:** Key transportation corridors opened new gateways to and through the county, including the construction of I-73, I-74, and the US Hwy 64 bypass around Asheboro, and the designation of US Hwy 421 as future I-685.
- **Greensboro-Randolph Megasite (GRMS) Project & Toyota:** What began as a vision became a reality with Toyota's 2021 announcement—affirming the county's capacity for global impact and the importance of cross-jurisdictional partnerships. The direct impact announced to date totals investment of \$13.9 billion and 5,100 new jobs.
- **Ross Stores Project:** The Ross Stores distribution center, currently under construction, is our second-largest industrial development project ever (\$450 million and 852 new jobs), trailing only Toyota in scope, investment, and job creation.
- **Workforce Initiatives:** From early engagement in Apprenticeship Randolph to launching our "Ride the Rise" workforce attraction campaign, the EDC is evolving to meet changing labor market needs.
- **NC Carolina Core branding:** We joined a regional movement initiated by the Piedmont Triad Partnership (PTP) to market the US 421 corridor – now Future I-685 – and enhance our visibility on a national scale.

These and other milestones were not achieved in isolation. They were the result of collaboration—across cities, counties, utilities, and sectors.

**Powerful Partnerships** – Randolph County has become a center for regional cooperation. The GRMS project was successful because of partnerships with multiple regional and state allies. Similarly, the PTRWA project united multiple jurisdictions, proving that shared infrastructure leads to shared prosperity.

The Toyota project and the Wolfspeed water line, like the Carolina Core branding initiative, represent how joint planning and shared vision can unlock opportunities.

**Impressive Returns** – Over the past five years alone, Randolph County has seen **\$14.6 billion in announced investments and 7,153 new jobs**. Cumulatively, over four decades, that totals **\$16.5 billion in announced investment and 20,882 new jobs**. These numbers represent more than economic growth—they reflect thousands of families supported, businesses built, and futures secured.

In 2023, RCEDC's capital campaign reflected continued trust and momentum. Additional funding in FY 2023–24 allowed RCEDC to evolve from a 90/10 to a 70/30 public/private funding model. This supported expanded programming and the growth of our staff to four full-time professionals – ready to meet the future.

**Looking Ahead: Planning the Next Chapter** – As we celebrate this milestone, we also turn our attention forward.

The next 40 years will require even more collaboration—regionally, statewide, and across sectors. Planning for regional infrastructure and expanding industrial park development will be key to remaining competitive. With our legacy of leadership and a proven model of success, we are ready to meet those challenges.

This is more than an anniversary. It's a reaffirmation of who we are: a county that invests in itself, partners with purpose, and plans for lasting prosperity.

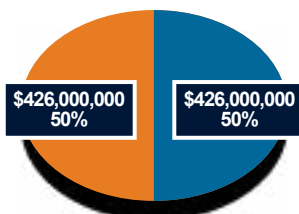
Here's to the next chapter of growth—for Randolph County, and all who call it home.



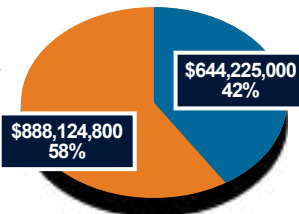
# 40 Years of Economic Growth!



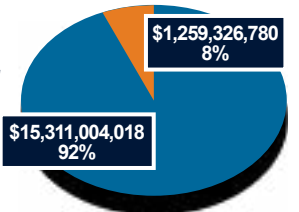
## 15 Years of Economic Growth



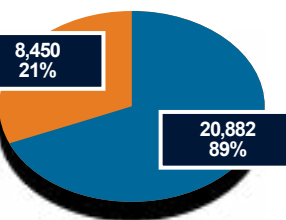
## 25 Years of Economic Growth



## 40 Years of Economic Growth



Existing Industry New Industry



## 40 Years Job Losses / New Jobs

Job Losses New Jobs

**40 Years**  
**1985 - 2025**  
**\$16,570,330,798**  
**in New Investment**



# Site & Product Development

The EDC continues to work to identify potential new sites for industrial development by collaborating with property owners to attract new companies. The EDC is working with landowners on sites that were identified through a development study.

A \$50,000 grant from North Carolina Railroad was awarded to Randolph County Economic Development to fund civil design work at the West Randleman Business Park with the goal of developing flex industrial space on the site.

## Marketing



**Natural Products Expo Trip**

The Randolph County EDC staff takes marketing on the road. The EDC has been on the move, actively promoting the county as a prime location for business growth and investment. Through a series of strategic trips, our team has connected with businesses and site consultants to highlight the advantages of doing business in Randolph County. Our team traveled to Charlotte for the SEUS Japan conference, Dallas with the Carolina Core to visit site selection consultants, battery shows in Detroit and Orlando with the EDPNC, and our first-time trip to participate in the Natural Products Expo in Anaheim. Also, NCEDA hosted Site Selection Consultants at Pinehurst for their Spring conference, and our last stop was in Maryland for Select USA. Now the staff can unpack and rest a bit until the fall.



### Ride the Rise workforce attraction video

With the growing number of job announcements in Randolph County, the EDC hired a marketing firm to create a [workforce attraction video](#). They also assisted in creating a new EDC website page, [Jobs of the Future](#), to showcase jobs available in Randolph County and to highlight quality of life. So far, targeted Facebook videos aimed at retired military personnel and community college graduates have garnered over 665,000 views. Additionally, YouTube videos have accumulated 230,000 views across North Carolina, parts of South Carolina and Virginia.



## Existing Industry - News

**David Hursey** sees vast possibilities as he takes over as the Existing Industry Director of Randolph County Economic Development Corporation. Hursey, a Seagrove native, returned to Randolph County from Utah and began his new job in December. He brings a wealth of experience in economic development, public policy and strategic business outreach. Hursey is a UNC Chapel Hill alum and has his Masters in Political Science & Middle East studies from the University of Utah.

**Apprenticeship Randolph** was named the 2025 Outstanding Apprenticeship Partner by ApprenticeshipNC, recognizing its ground-breaking contributions to workforce development, industry collaboration and hands-on training. The program's achievements have gained statewide and national recognition, most notably its acceptance into the inaugural class of U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Ambassadors. RCC Director of Apprenticeships, Stacey Miller received two invitations to the White House.



# New Business Announcements



In October 2024, **Alternative Performance Technologies, LLC Manufacturing, NC** purchased the former Universal Fibers building located in Asheboro. The company has a facility in High Point and will consolidate at their new facility. They do steel erection & fabrication and have plans for future building upfits and job creation.

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**Gillespie Precast** announced in April that they will be locating their business in the southwestern part of Randolph County. The family-owned and operated precast concrete manufacturer, serving utility and site contractors in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia, will be creating 60 new jobs over the next five years, with average wages of \$63,000 or more than \$13,000 above the county's average wage.

The location will be on the former Hughes Furniture Industries site, which served as a lumber yard. Gillespie Precast will purchase 32.85 acres.



The company announced that a new facility will be built. Some existing structures will be demolished and other buildings will be renovated.

Based on job creation, Randolph County has offered \$92,000 in a performance-based incentive to be paid across a five-year period. Gillespie Precast will also be eligible for \$350,000 in state grants.

Gillespie Precast's current product line and precast concrete solutions include box culvert, dry utility (power, electric and communication) structures, pump station structures, pre-piped meter vaults, sanitary and storm sewer drainage items, complete trench drain packages, and many types of custom precast, according to information from the company.

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A small expansion project is in the works at **Eastern Steel Works** in Seagrove. The purchase of a town-owned .42-acre parcel adjacent to the ESW building was approved, and ESW anticipates future investment of up to \$290,000 and creation of three new full-time jobs as a result. The EDC helped over many months to facilitate this agreement, and we are pleased that both parties are fully satisfied with the outcome.

# Randolph Rises Investors 2024-2025

## Platinum

Joseph M. Bryan Foundation  
Randolph Electric Membership Corp.

## Diamond

Energizer  
Truist

## Gold

Ace/Avant Concrete Construction Co., Inc.  
ARC-Markham Metals, Inc.  
Bob & Tiffany Crumley, 358 Real Estate  
Chandler Concrete Corporation  
Duke Energy  
Jowat Corporation  
Pallet Express Inc.  
Piedmont Natural Gas  
Pinnacle Financial Partners  
Randolph Health  
RE/MAX Central Realty  
Samet Corporation  
Sapona Plastics, LLC  
Toyota Battery Manufacturing North Carolina  
Uwharrie Builders

## Silver

APAC:Thompson-Arthur  
Bobbitt Construction  
Chick-fil-A  
East Coast Lumber  
Environmental Air Systems LLC  
First Bank  
Hubbell Industrial Controls  
J.P. Thomas & Co., Inc.  
J L Darr & Son, Inc.  
Linear Solutions Inc.\*  
Myrick Construction  
North Carolina Railroad Company  
Randolph Community College  
Schwarz Properties  
Sedia Systems, Inc.  
StarPet/Indorama Ventures  
Summey Engineering Associates, PLLC  
Technimark

## Bronze

Advisors Financial Center, LLP  
Allen Tate Relocation  
Ann Hoover  
Apprenticeship Randolph\*  
Asheboro City Schools  
Asheboro Fire & Security  
Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce  
AVS Catering, Inc.  
Bank OZK  
Brubaker & Associates, Inc.  
Burge Flower Shop  
Carolina Bronze Sculpture  
Commonwealth Hosiery Mills, Inc.  
Cone Health  
Costa Sanders  
D & D Enterprises  
Datamark Graphics, Inc.  
Davis-Martin-Powell & Associates, Inc.  
Deep River Fabricators  
DS Smith Packaging Asheboro  
Dynamic Quest  
ECS Southeast, LLP  
Engineered Steel Products, LLC  
Euliss Propane Company  
Express Employment Professionals  
Fibertex Personal Care Corporation  
Fidelity Bank  
FirstHealth of the Carolinas\*  
Fourth Elm Construction  
Gavin & Cox  
General Insulation Co., Inc.  
Graham Personnel Services, Inc.  
Harpley's LLC\*  
HICAPS, Inc.  
J H Batten, Inc.  
Kirkland, Inc.  
Lancaster Customworks  
Landmark Builders  
Liberty Trailers  
LUMOS  
Manhattan American Terrazzo Strip Co.  
McKenzie Properties & Investments  
Movement Bank\*  
NC Zoological Park & Society

New Atlantic  
PEMMCO Manufacturing  
Phoenix Precision Machining  
Post Consumer Brands  
Ralph's Frame Shop  
Ramseur Eastern Randolph Area Chamber  
Randolph Communications  
Randolph County Tourism Dev. Authority/  
Heart of NC Visitors Bureau  
Randolph Land Development  
Randolph Packing Co., Inc.  
Ready Telecom  
Reworld  
Rheem Sales Company  
Ridge Funeral Home & Cremation Service, LLC  
RubberMill, Inc.  
S&ME, Inc.  
Sanford Contractors, Inc.  
Shelco, Inc.  
Survey Carolina  
T & L Construction Company, Inc.  
The Timken Company  
The Wooten Company  
Tower Components, Inc.  
Toyota Tsusho America, Inc.  
TRC Staffing  
Triad Design Group  
Trollinger Construction  
Trotters Sewing Company  
Trucordia  
United Brass Works  
Village Printing  
Waste Management  
Wayne Thomas Chevrolet

## Advocate

Four Saints Brewing Company  
Manor House Creative\*  
Randolph County School System

\*Denotes new members  
in 2024-2025

# EDC Board of Directors 2024-2025

**Fred Smith**, Chair  
Randolph Electric Membership Corp.

**Daniel Morris**, Vice Chair  
Pinnacle Financial Partners

**David Ramsey**, Secretary/Treasurer  
Landmark Builders

**Darrell Frye**, Member at Large  
Chairman, Randolph County Board of Commissioners

**Bob Crumley**, Past Chair  
358 Real Estate

**Dr. Shah Ardalan**  
Randolph Community College

**Gary Betts**  
Mayor, City of Randleman

**Dale Brinkley**  
Randolph County School System

**Terry Caviness**  
T & L Construction Company

**Lewis Dorsett**  
Mayor, City of Archdale

**Frank Edmondson**  
Schwarz Properties

**David Fernandez**  
Mayor, Town of Seagrove

**Baxter Hammer**  
The Timken Company

**Dr. Chris Harrington**  
Apprenticeship NC

**Zeb Holden**  
Randolph County Manager

**Diane James**  
Hubbell Industrial Controls

**Art Martinez**  
Trucordia

**Rich McNabb**  
Mayor, City of Trinity

**David Smith**  
Mayor, City of Asheboro

**Filmore York**  
Mayor, Town of Liberty

## Local Government Partners

Randolph County  
Archdale  
Asheboro  
Liberty  
Franklinville  
Ramseur  
Randleman  
Seagrove  
Staley  
Trinity

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[Linkedin.com/company/randolph-county-nc-edc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/randolph-county-nc-edc)



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**David Hursey**, Existing Industry Director  
[dhursey@rcedc.com](mailto:dhursey@rcedc.com)



*Expanding Opportunities in the Heart of North Carolina*

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