

## 2022 Annual Report



## Dear Friends \& Colleagues,

This was a year that proved Chesapeake is capable of rising to any challenge - and enduring steadfastly to ensure our community is connected, capable, and resilient. Our city is filled with citizens who hold a deep love for this community and band together to overcome even the hardest of challenges. As a community in 2022, we embraced new initiatives and continually identified new opportunities so that our city remained economically competitive while preserving the quality of life that is so valued by our residents.

The dedicated team of Chesapeake Economic Development continues to tirelessly work with the area's existing businesses in an effort to further develop our communities and increase employment opportunities, while also securing development opportunities with like-minded partners to carry our city into the future. I am proud of their continued success this year and beyond.

- Dr. Richard W. "Rick" West

Mayor of Chesapeake


## Year-End Review



\$321,667,969<br>Capital Investment

\$134,095,129
New Investment
\$187,572,840
Existing Investment

Business District Investments
Capital Investments by Industry


| $\$ \mathbf{2 7 , 4 5 7 , 3 3 1}$ | $\$ 3,021,503$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Deep Creek Cavalier | Indian River |
| $\$ 154,477,065$ $\$ 53,741,146$ <br> Greenbrier South Norfolk |  |
| $\$ \mathbf{1 8 , 3 6 1 , 1 6 5}$ | $\$ \mathbf{6 4 , 6 0 9 , 7 5 9}$ |
| Great Bridge | Western Branch |



## Small Business Spotlight

## Freedom Street Partners

At Freedom Street Partners, Founder and CEO, Scott Danner, and his team of more than 40 advisors, focus on more than just person-centered and award-winning financial planning and wealth management. They strive to be an integral part of the things that matter most in the lives of their clients, community members, and colleagues - from children's college acceptance to breaking ground on new business ventures.

Freedom Street Partners, named Small Business of the Year in 2022 and a Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisor, is a Chesapeake-headquartered financial services company founded in 2016. In a term Danner coined "Life Optimization," his 15 locations in more than seven states, focus on putting a person's life first - and finding the financial freedom to live it.

Growing up in Chesapeake, Danner knew that this bustling and close-knit community was the perfect place to start his business. With a mission to leave the world a better place than he found it, Freedom Street Partners and Danner often choose to focus their company's charitable efforts locally, including starting the famous Chesapeake Wine Festival. Danner explains, "We wanted to build a business that was better than ourselves, and that starts with giving back to our community."

The Chesapeake Wine Festival began in 2009, and since then has donated more than $\$ 2$ million for local Chesapeake charities. As co-founder, Danner worked closely with Steven Wright, Chesapeake Economic Development's Director, to connect with business sponsors, ensuring that $100 \%$ of the raised funds go directly to chosen charities.

In a partnership with Chesapeake Economic Development (CED), Chesapeake Rotary Club, the City Council, Sheriff Jim O'Sullivan and the police department, local businesses both big and small, and countless volunteers, the Chesapeake Wine Festival has seen a tremendous impact on local charities, including Boys and Girls Clubs of Hampton Roads, Children Today Leaders Tomorrow, Chesapeake Health Investment Program (CHIP), and many more.

Get to know Freedom Street Partners more at www.freedomstreetpartners.com and mark your calendars for the next Chesapeake Wine Festival in the spring of 2023.
"I don't think that our success would be possible outside of Chesapeake. The entire community and its leaders have come together to support our efforts and this community-led initiative. A huge part of that is thanks to the businesses I was able to connect with thanks to CED."

## -Scott Danner

Founder and CEO of Freedom Street Partners

## Business Highlights 2022



"Chesapeake Economic Development was an incredibly efficient and attentive team to work with. This active and hands-on community is the best location for our business to grow."

## -Chef Antonio Caruana

Owner \& Chef of Luce and Luce Secondo

## Small Business Spotlight

## Luce Secondo

From small plates to big ideas, Luce Secondo is a modern Italian restaurant with an upscale, urban atmosphere, where fine dining, hand-crafted cocktails, and indulgent ingredients are always on the menu.

Plating contemporary twists on classic dishes, Chef Antonio Caruana opened his first restaurant, Luce, in Downtown Norfolk in 2013. In May 2022, he expanded with a second location in Chesapeake's Summit Point. His recipe for success? "[His] team." Instead of simply serving food, his heartfelt staff of professionals has collectively created a culture built on traditional techniques and progressive passions.

Unlike other restaurants, Luce doesn't want patrons to simply sit, eat, and leave. Caruana explains, "We do everything by hand here and Luce Secondo is all about enjoying the experience. Our goal each night? Bringing people joy, laughter, and a sense of community through our love of Italian food."

Hungry for more growth, Chef Caruana plans to develop an on-site cigar lounge at Luce Secondo and off-site, upscale, gourmet catering opportunities.

Chesapeake Economic Development is proud to partner with Chef Antonio. We look forward to seeing him and his team accomplish many more great things in 2023 and beyond in our Chesapeake community.

Dig in and follow Luce Secondo's journey on social media!
f
Luce Secondo
lucesecondova

## Closing

Chesapeake Economic Development is committed to making a positive impact on our city's vitality and success through the dedicated support of attracting and growing businesses, creating and retaining jobs, and making our community a better place to live.

Economic development drives more than just economic growth; it has a lasting impact on a community. It creates new job opportunities and improves the quality of life for existing and future residents. By aligning the region with a vision for growth and increasing participation in the local economy, our team is strengthening critical components that ensure a successful community.

This year, Chesapeake Economic Development embraced change, fostered partnerships, and drove business - especially with the exciting and progressive Three Oaks Industrial Park development well underway.

Our team looks forward to continuing to build a bright future for Chesapeake as we passionately help our community flourish and businesses thrive in 2023.

Our community's reliability and resilience prove that Chesapeake is a great place to do business.

## - Vonda W. Chappell

Chair of Chesapeake Economic Development Authority


## Our Team

Steven C. Wright / Director
Ben White / Deputy Director
Tim Howlett / Development Services Coordinator
Preston Wilhelm / Senior Business Development Manager
Lloyd Jackson / Senior Business Development Manager
Constantia Matthews / Management Analyst
Sherry Barnette / Business Development Manager
Curtis Cobert / Business Development Manager
Kerstin "Lexy" Plarr / Business Development Manager
Austin Bussey / Business Intelligence Specialist
Stephanie Y. Howell / Office Coordinator
Jude Jackson / Office Specialist

Economic Development Authority Board Members

Vonda Chappell / Chair Kevin Cosgrove / Vice Chair Bradley Brickhouse / Secretary

Dawn Matheson / Treasurer
Julie Anderson / Board Member
Tonya Gill / Board Member
Luis Jimenez / Board Member
John Maddux / Board Member
Michael Malone / Board Member

