

2021 Annual Report

Chesapeake
VIRGINIA

FIND YOUR WAY FORWARD



Dear Friends & Colleagues,

Throughout 2021, Chesapeake Economic Development was continuously committed to helping the area's existing businesses with expansion, further developing our communities, increasing employment opportunities, and awarding recovery grants to small businesses that were financially impacted by COVID-19. In the midst of a pandemic, their dedicated team worked extremely hard to develop an environment where residents and entrepreneurs had the freedom to aspire and prosper with unparalleled opportunities. As always, the team at Chesapeake Economic Development utilized resources to the best of their ability and I am proud of all of the growth and hard work that they've displayed in 2021.



Thank you all on behalf of our City.

— Dr. Richard W. "Rick" West
Mayor of Chesapeake

Year-End Review



2,925
New Jobs



339
New Business Licenses



\$390,100,074
Capital Investment

\$251,432,165
New Investment

\$138,667,909
Existing Investment

Capital Investments by Industry



\$31,526,719
Office



\$100,910,295
Retail



\$22,425,833
Medical



\$18,851,345
Land



\$190,590,013
Industrial



\$25,795,868
Flex

Business District Investments

\$48,868,062
Deep Creek Cavalier

\$34,389,436
Great Bridge

\$21,234,000
South Norfolk

\$116,724,522
Greenbrier

\$6,273,125
Indian River

\$162,619,929
Western Branch

Small Business Spotlight

Pretty Ugly Distribution

It's true – we can't say enough great things about Aaron Childers and Pretty Ugly Distribution. In 2015, her Chesapeake-based company was born out of a desire to distribute craft beer for smaller independent breweries. Humbly starting with a single minivan and a few kegs, Pretty Ugly has expanded year after year and now represents 32 breweries, a cidery, and two meaderies located throughout Tidewater and Central Virginia.

One of Pretty Ugly Distribution's biggest successes of 2021 was expanding its distribution services to the Outer Banks and adding a new Sales Rep to its team of 10 employees – which Aaron humorously states is, “ten more than I thought I'd ever have.”

With big plans for the future and hopeful growth to Charlottesville, Virginia and other surrounding cities, Aaron loves the fact that, “Chesapeake has a great sense of community that makes it easy to stay involved.” She continues, “My favorite part about what I do is building relationships, meeting new people in the community, and working directly with our customers on a day-to-day basis.”

Chesapeake Economic Development is proud to partner with Pretty Ugly Distribution and we look forward to seeing their company accomplish many more great things in 2022 and beyond!

Tap in and follow Pretty Ugly Distribution's journey on social media!

 prettyuglydistro  prettyuglydistribution



“Chesapeake Economic Development is a super supportive group of amazing people who are an integral part of the things we've accomplished.”

—Aaron Childers
Owner & Founder of Pretty Ugly Distribution



VA Outpatient Clinic

\$252 Million
Investment

400+
New Jobs Created

196,000 Square-Foot
Facility



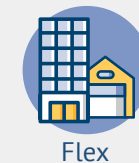
Yupo Expansion

\$7.85 Million
Investment

100,000 Square-Foot
Facility

25 years
in Chesapeake

Business Highlights 2021

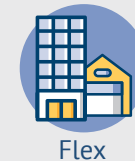


MI Technical Solutions

\$520 Thousand
Investment

10
New Jobs Created

4,000 Square-Foot
Facility



Prism Maritime

\$4 Million
Investment

166
New Jobs Created

24,000 Square-Foot
Facility

Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Grants

To assist with the negative financial impacts the pandemic had on small businesses with 50 employees or less, we formed a Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Grant program in 2020. Over the past year, our team rolled out two additional rounds of grants that provided up to \$12,500 in financial relief per business – including those that received funding from the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loan. Our grants helped cover businesses expenses such as rent, payroll, and operating costs.

Total Amount
\$5.36 Million

Benefiting Businesses
469

Awarded Grants
751

51 Veteran-Owned
201 SWaM-Certified

“We’re committed to helping our business community find success during these trying times. We understand the impact our community has felt and we’re working to get funds to those who need it as quickly as we can.”

–Steven Wright
Director of Economic Development for the City of Chesapeake

Round 1

June 2020

\$50,000 awarded to
15 businesses

Round 2

August–November 2020

\$2.4M awarded to
252 businesses

Round 3

February - March 2021

\$1M awarded to
105 businesses

Round 4

April - June 2021

\$1.8M awarded to
379 businesses

Closing

Chesapeake Economic Development is committed to offering businesses from all industries the necessary tools and knowledge they need to succeed in the dynamic Chesapeake economy. We will continue to support local, national, and global business ventures with multiple services that incorporate the area’s vast economic opportunities. Our dedicated team of passionate professionals will work to provide new and existing businesses with resources such as site selection, marketing services, and demographic data, in addition to investment guidance and expertise. Recognized as one of the fastest-growing cities in the state, we have the unique and exciting opportunity to develop the No. 1 Tier Five Site in Virginia (VEDP) this year – Three Oaks Industrial Park.

We look forward to building a stronger future for Chesapeake as we passionately help new businesses flourish and current businesses expand in 2022.



– 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 Intelligence Specialist*

Stephanie Glover / *Office Coordinator*

Jude Jackson / *Office Specialist*

Economic Development Authority Board Members

Vonda Chappell / *Chair*

Kevin Cosgrove / *Vice Chair*

Bradley Brickhouse / *Secretary*

Dawn Matheson / *Treasurer*

Tonya Gill / *Board Member*

Luis Jimenez / *Board Member*

John Maddux / *Board Member*

Michael Malone / *Board Member*

Patrick Reynolds / *Board Member*



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