## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



#### From the CEO:

This year has come and gone in a flash, but what a year it has been! We surpassed our first-year goal for our new five-year plan, INNOVATE Jackson County, Power of Partnerships, grew Chamber membership by more than 8%, witnessed a recordbreaking year in tourism, executed the inaugural State of Education Address, and so much more.

INNOVATE Jackson County consists of five initiatives: Workforce Solutions, Economic Vitality, Public Policy and Advocacy, Destination Marketing and Tourism, Investor Relations, Communications and Marketing. I encourage you to review the highlights of our major accomplishments within year one of our new five-year plan.

None of this could happen without our exceptional members, community partners and investors who give of their resources and believe in the work we are doing. Thank you for a successful 2022, and we look forward to even greater things in 2023!

Rick Roden

#### **MISSION**

To promote harmony and stimulate county-wide economic growth. With a goal to improve the quality of life, enhance communications between workforce & education, we strive for a positive partnership with all Jackson County citizens.



In 2022, the Mountain Lakes Chamber of Commerce embarked on our new five-year program of work, INNOVATE Jackson County, Power of Partnerships. We refined our focus to leverage our people, our diverse communities, and our abundant natural resources to deliver results that support business and industry, create new jobs, drive tourism, and enhance the quality of life for all of Jackson County. The Chamber is pursuing a regional approach with our neighbors to address common challenges and leverage opportunities. Your voice counts! We welcome your feedback and any opportunity to make Jackson County a better place to live, work and play.

# Chamber **STAFF**



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JOANN JOHNSON VOLUNTEER ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## 2022

# Board of **DIRECTORS**

Board Chair Jared Dovers

Jim Jordan

Joey Gilbert

**Immediate Past Board Chair** 

Bill Nance Amanda Heard

Treasurer Bill Knight

**Brian Presson** 

Judy Matthews

**Chairman Elect** 

Jim Barclay Tim Saint

Jesse Atchley Vickie Sanders

Jonathan Colvin Greg Syslo

Terry Couch Jeff Tubbs

Dustin Dabbs Teresa Walker

Jason Davidson Vicki Watts

Monica Davis

## 2022 TIMELINE

January 18 - Lake Guntersville Impact Report

January 24 - Tourism Report

January 25 - INNOVATE Jackson County Reception with Governor Kay Ivey

January 25 - State of the State Luncheon

January 28 - Engage in Entrepreneurship

#### **JANUARY**

#### **FEBRUARY**

February 22-24 - Toyota Series Bass Tournament March 15 - Big Brothers Big Sisters Interest Luncheon

March 17 - Alabama Committee on Credentialing and Career Pathways

March 22 - Singing River Trail Launch Tank

March 25-27 - McDonalds Big Bass Splash

March 29-30 - Montgomery Drive-In

#### **MARCH**

#### **APRIL**

April 12 - Scottsboro State of the City Address

April 21 - Bridgeport Early Bird Breakfast

April 30- May 1 - Major League Fishing Tournament May 7 - Tennessee RiverLine Sportsman Landing Stewardship

May 10 - All-County Academic Banquet

May 21-22 - Tennessee Bass Nation Kayak Tournament

#### MAY

#### JUNE

June 7 Depot Days Early Bird Breakfast

June 11 - Alabama Bass Trail Tournament

June 12 - World Games

June 13 - Elected Officials with Bridgett Massengill, President/CEO of Thrive Regional Partnership

June 16 - Recruiting Tactics Training

July 1 - Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Workshop July 2 - Tennessee RiverLine Paddle Event in Stevenson July 7 - Highland Ambassadors Luncheon July 21 - Retention Best Practices Training	September 10 - Hobie Series College Kayak Bass Tournament  September 12 - INNOVATE Jackson County Reception  September 15 - Trail of Tears Kickoff Breakfast  September 15 - Compensation & Benefits Training  September 27-29 - Washington Fly-In  September 29 - UGF Business After Hours  September 30 - Stevenson Skirmish Kickoff Breakfast	November 17 - Bridgeport Early Bird Breakfast at USG  November 10 - Financial Wellness Workshop  November 12 - Jackson County Art Showcase  November 29 - State of State Address with Jackson County Legislative Delegation  Angel Tree
JULY	SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER
AUGUST	OCTOBER	DECEMBER
August 5 - TVA Guntersville State Park Event  August 18 - Creating & Implementing Inclusive Policies Training  August 23 - Thrive Regional Partnership State of Freight Event  August 26 - Veterans Memorial Park Golf Tournament	October 13 - Marketing Strategy 101 Workshop  October 19 - State of Education Address  October 20 - Business Council of Alabama Committee Day (Legislative Agenda for 2023)  October 26 - Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament  October 29 - Tennessee RiverLine Jackson County Park Stewardship	December 9 - Chamber Annual Banquet  December 10 - Scottsboro Christmas Parade  December 17 - Stevenson State of the City

# WORKFORCE **SOLUTIONS**

#### Mission

Be a conduit between business and industry and community partners to convey workforce and talent development needs and to provide solutions for those challenges in five specific initiative areas.







#### Pre-K – 12 Educational & Post - Secondary Workforce Programs

- Developed and Implemented the Jackson Launch Co-op Program Targeting 1167
   Students
- Obtained a \$57K Grant for the YouScience Program for Jackson County & Scottsboro Schools
- YouScience: Targeting 1169 Students 7th 12th Grades and 2321 Students 9th 12th Grades
- Collaborating with the Schools, B & I to Develop a "Hard Hat Girls & Women" in CTE Group
- Coordinated Monthly Meetings with Career Coaches and CTE Directors
- Mock Interviews for High School Students
- Spring and Summer Job Fairs for High School Students
- State of Education Address

#### **Pipeline of Potential Workers**

Jackson Launch Co-op Program Targeting 1167 Students

- 88 Scottsboro City Schools Students Participating
- 78 Jackson County Schools Students Participating
- 113 Business & Industry Participating
- 2 Students Offered Full Time Position in May after Graduation

#### 2nd Chance Program Participants

- 3 Judicial System/Incarcerated
- 2 Without GED or HS Diploma
- 7 Career Change
- 1 Veteran





#### **Plant Managers Group**

Increased Participating Companies from 16 to 26 and Managers from 26 to 56 Industry Training needs: Leadership Training, Maintenance Training Matched 10 Companies with Educational Training Partners
Obtained EITP Grant for Front Line Supervisor Leadership Training

- 3 Companies Participated
- Trained 25 Employees

Obtained \$120K AWSP Grants for 7 Companies for Leadership and Maintenance Training

- 190 employees for Maintenance Technical Training
- 98 employees for Leadership Training

#### OSHA 10 Hour Training

- 3 Companies Participated
- 25 Employees Trained

#### **Business & Industry Customer Needs**

- Developed & Implemented a Workforce Resource List
- Business & Industry Workforce Solutions Meetings
- Assisted 47 Business & Industry with Individualized Company Needs & Workforce Solution

# ECONOMIC **VITALITY**

#### Mission

Execute efforts to help small business grow and thrive; grow jobs from our existing retail and commercial businesses; and recruit targeted new retail and commercial business.

#### **New Training Opportunities**

Recruitment
Retention
Compensation
Inclusive Policies
Small Business Development
Marketing Strategies
Starting Your Own Business
Entrepreneurship
Financial Wellness



- Successful completion of Stage One for Tennessee RiverLine
- Largest percentage of applicants per capita for Singing River Trail Launch Tank
- Inclusion of Jackson County in Launch 2035 Regional Initiative
- Formation of Mountain Lakes Chamber Emissaries for active business leaders
- 11 Early Bird Breakfasts & Business After Hours





#### 25 Ribbon Cuttings & Ground Breakings

Apex Handyman Services
Carter Automotive
311 Boutique
The Shee Shop
DeKalb Orthopedics &
Sports Medicine
Eeliminator Aquatic
Vegetation Removal
1st Choice Painting

Shear Bliss MedSpa
Cory Hixon-Allstate Agency
The Grove Grotto & Spa
S. Broad Street Nutrition
Victory Sportsman
Jackson County Fair Assoc.
Beach'N Tans
Toyota
4D Sprouts
Section Builders Market

Highlands Primary Care
Alabaster Coffee
TJ Maxx
Publix
Highlands Hospital MRI
Scottsboro Boys Museum
Little Jeans Boutique &
Consignment
Whataburger

# PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY

#### Mission

Serve as the lead advocate for Jackson County to promote and influence public policy that represents the best interest of our business community and supports business growth at the local, state and federal levels.

## 63 Advocates traveled to Montgomery & Washington, D.C. Compiled Local, State & Federal Legislative Agendas





- Chamber CEO Small Business Committee Chairman for Business Council of Alabama & established Federal & State Legislative Agendas to help small businesses in Alabama
- Chamber CEO Co-Chair My Lake Guntersville & works with TVA to help manage aquatic vegetation & invasive species







- State of the State Address with Governor Kay Ivey
- State of the City Scottsboro
- State of the City Bridgeport

- State of the City Stevenson
- State of the State Address with Jackson County Legislative Delegation

# DESTINATION MARKETING & TOURISM

#### **Mission**

Drive county-wide economic impact, relocation and continued growth through the marketing and promotion of the lifestyle, recreation and tourism opportunities throughout the 1127 square miles that make up Jackson County including the 69,000 acres of water and 80,000 acres of public land as a means to establish Jackson County as a premier destination to visit, live, work and play.

## 36.2% growth in Tourism **Record Breaking Year**

Record Breaking Tear

More than \$77M for Jackson County









#### **Big Bass Splash**

Alabama Bass MasterMajor League Fishing Toyota

- 1,325 Anglers
- 656 Anglers
- **Series Bass Tournament**

• 28 States & Canada

656 Anglers

## INVESTOR RELATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

#### Mission

Manage all aspects of the Chamber's communications through the development of written, verbal and visual content that best promotes the brand, activity and accomplishments of the Chamber to investors, membership and the broader community. Promote Jackson County regionally and nationally to establish the County as a premier destination to visit, live, work and play.

#### **Communications & Marketing Projects**

- New Chamber website
- Enhanced Chamber Directory
- Updated internal & external communication systems
- New inclusive Chamber email addresses
- Member & investor spotlights
- Bi-weekly newsletter
- Newcomer & visitor Chamber magazine
- New CGI marketing videos
- Regional, national & international promotion of Jackson County



#### 543 Chamber Members 47 New 2022 Chamber Members

CFD Research Corporation
Research & Technology
Innovation, Inc.
B&B Recycling
Liberty Learning Foundation
Jackson County District
Attorney, Jason Pierce
Well Restored Properties
Holistic Performance Group
Eeliminator Aquatic
Vegetation Removal
Carter Automotive
MadMax

3:11 Boutique

ReTreet

This Is It Coaching

Citizens Bank & Trust

Titus Electric & Contracting

Alabama Cooperative Extension Jackson County The Shee Shop The Grove Grotto & Spa Allstate – Hixon Agency Shear Bliss MedSpa DeKalb Orthopedics & Sports Medicine Alabama Education Association Alabaster Coffee Parkview Animal Wellness Red Roof Inn Publix S. Broad Street Nutrition Motel 6 Roy Light Evergreen Oasis Financial Wellness

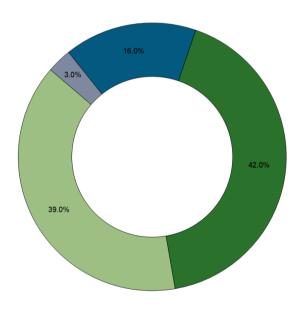
Donna Fredrick

Cumberland Health & Rehab Kramer's Gvm Waterfront International Realty Anytime Fitness Scottsboro Victory Lanes TI Maxx American Red Cross Lightwire Solutions Captain D's Little Jean Boutique & Consignment MWB Restaurants/ Whataburger Beach'N Tans Tanning Salon **4D Sprouts** Section Builders Market 1st Choice Painting

Elyon Defense

# Revenue **SOURCES**

The Mountain Lakes Chamber works to establish diverse revenue streams to continue to provide quality programs, impactful experiences, and powerful opportunities. Our work would be impossible without INNOVATE Jackson County Investors, Chamber Membership Dues, Event Sponsorships & Revenue, and Lodging Taxes/Surcharge. Thank you to everyone involved in contributing to our organization and our success.



<b>INNOVATE Jackson County Investors</b>	42%
Lodging Taxes/Surcharge	39%
<b>Chamber Membership Dues</b>	16%
<b>Event Sponsorship &amp; Revenue</b>	3%

# INNOVATE Jackson County INVESTORS

## Special Thanks for Your Support!

#### Chairman's Circle:

City of Scottsboro

Jackson County Delegation

#### **CEO Council:**

HTPG Google Westrock

#### **President's Forum:**

Sand Mountain Electric Redstone Federal Credit Union Harbin Automotive Owens Company South/ Unclaimed Baggage Co.

#### **Growth Partner:**

Maples Industries, Inc.
Tolar Construction
Lambert, Inc.
United States Gypsum Co.
Highlands Medical Center
Scottsboro Electric Power Board
Scottsboro Water Sewer Gas
First Jackson Bank
PHP Fibers & SafeTweave, Inc.

#### **Community Leader:**

Scottsboro Family Pharmacy Johns Manville

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Fastenal

Buccaneer Rope

Builders Supply Co., Inc. Brown-Forman Cooperage

Great Western Products

Family Savings Credit Union

Farmers Telecommunications

**CFD** Engineering

P & C Construction

Avans Machine

Vulcan Materials Company

Goose Pond Colony

Chrisman's Economy Carpet

Allison Wholesale

Mr. Rooter Plumbing

Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc.

Wenzel Metal Spinning

City of Bridgeport

Town of Section

Town of Hollywood

Waterworks Board of Section/Dutton

**Bridgeport Utilities** 

Comfort Inn & Suites

Tennessee Valley Sign

**Envision Construction** 

Scottsboro Coca Cola Bottling Co.

Gant, Croft & Associates

K & C Contracting



## www.mountainlakeschamber.com

