

# 2026

## LOUISIANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP GUIDE

DRIVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACROSS LOUISIANA



# OUR DIVISIONS



ADMINISTRATION,  
ADVOCACY AND GLOBAL  
DEVELOPMENT



CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE GROWTH  
INITIATIVES



TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE AND  
PROGRAMMING

## ABOUT LCCF

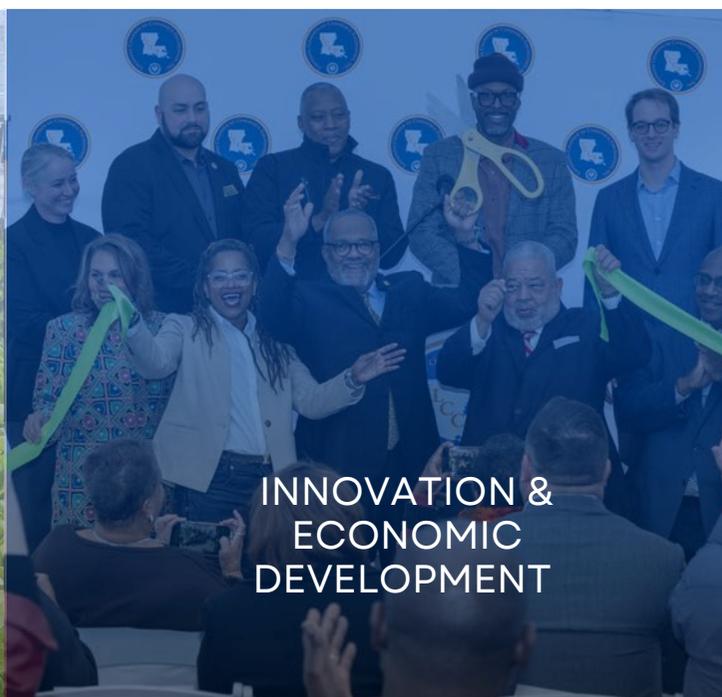


For nearly a decade, the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation has evolved to meet the changing needs of the state's small business and economic ecosystem. In 2018, the Foundation recognized a critical statewide need to strengthen local chambers of commerce, leading to the launch of initiatives that built capacity and expanded support across all 64 parishes. As this work matured, the Foundation broadened its reach to deliver targeted technical assistance to budding and second-stage businesses—helping them scale operations, enhance competitiveness, and drive regional economic growth.

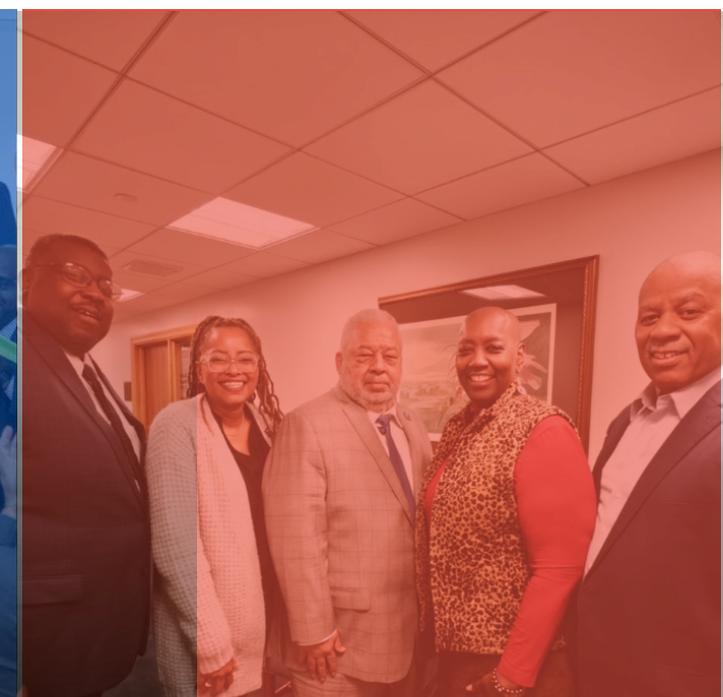
Today, the Foundation's work spans economic and workforce development, agriculture, research, and community advancement. Through strategic partnerships with municipalities, academic institutions, and corporate stakeholders, we deliver integrated solutions that support business expansion, agricultural innovation, and community engagement. This growth is reflected in our six distinct yet interconnected divisions, unified by a shared mission to strengthen Louisiana's economy, empower its communities, and foster sustainable, long-term development statewide.



AGRIAQUACULTURE  
CENTER OF  
EXCELLENCE



INNOVATION &  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT





## *Mission:*

The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation drives Louisiana's economy forward by empowering small businesses, strengthening regional chambers, and advancing innovation in agriculture, workforce training, and economic policy. Through strategic public-private partnerships, capacity-building expertise, and statewide advocacy, we expand access to procurement, foster sustainable development, and support resilient, thriving communities. Our mission is to grow local enterprises, shape effective policy, and build a stronger economic future for Louisiana.

## *Vision:*

To position Louisiana as a national leader in small business growth, agricultural innovation, and community-driven economic development, creating a future where local enterprises fuel statewide prosperity.



# ADMINISTRATION, ADVOCACY & DEVELOPMENT

This division has led LCCF's strategic growth since our founding in 2018. It oversees legislative affairs, stakeholder engagement, impactful events and statewide expansion.



## Advocacy

The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation leads statewide advocacy that elevates the voice of small and rural businesses by advancing procurement opportunities, strengthening local business organizations through technical support, and championing legislative policies that promote long-term growth and sustainability.



## International Development

This division advances international economic development by connecting Louisiana's small businesses to global markets. Through partnerships with Côte d'Ivoire, EXIM, the African Development Bank, and CEPICI, we expand trade opportunities and foster cross-continental collaboration for small business enterprises.



## Research & Development

The Research Division of the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation provides data-driven analysis and applied research that informs policy, program development, and strategic investment statewide. Through active collaboration with federal agencies, municipalities, academic institutions, research facilities, school districts, and corporate stakeholders, the Division advances entrepreneurship, economic development, agriculture and aquaponics, and workforce development. By translating research into actionable insights, the Division equips decision-makers and communities with evidence-based tools that strengthen small businesses, support workforce pipelines, foster innovation, and promote sustainable, inclusive economic growth across Louisiana.



# CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GROWTH INITIATIVES (CCGI)

The Chamber of Commerce Growth Initiative (CCGI) is the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation's flagship capacity-building program designed to strengthen and sustain regional chambers of commerce across the state. Through CCGI, the Foundation provides direct, hands-on support, leadership training, and operational guidance to ten regional chambers, equipping chamber executives with the tools, data, and resources needed to effectively serve their local business communities. By delivering region-specific strategies, shared services, and best-practice frameworks, CCGI ensures chambers are financially resilient, strategically aligned, and positioned for long-term impact—ultimately strengthening Louisiana's small business ecosystem and regional economies.

**5000+** Entrepreneurs supported through chambers and programs

**75** Programs to support chamber & entrepreneurial development

**10** Affiliated Chambers across Louisiana



## AGENCY PARTNERS



# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAMMING

The Technical Assistance Division serves as a cornerstone of the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation's small business support ecosystem and is home to the Business Innovation Program (BIP). Through structured, statewide cohort-based programs, the Division delivers targeted training, one-on-one technical assistance, and industry-informed mentorship to entrepreneurs at critical stages of growth. Participants receive hands-on support in areas such as business formation, financial management, access to capital, market expansion, compliance, and operational scalability. Designed to address real-world challenges faced by small businesses, the Division equips entrepreneurs with practical tools, strategic insight, and trusted networks—strengthening business sustainability, accelerating growth, and driving economic impact across Louisiana's diverse regions.

**\$3.2M**

Contracting opportunities secured for program participants

**497**

Program Participants in digital or in-person trainings

**26**

Cohort graduates of our 10 month Access to Capital Program

## 75+ PROGRAMS

- BUSINESS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & BOOKKEEPING
- BRANDING & BUSINESS IDENTITY
- MARKETING & CUSTOMER ACQUISITION
- WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT & DIGITAL PRESENCE
- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & TECHNOLOGY IN BUSINESS
- LEGAL STRUCTURE & COMPLIANCE
- ACCESS TO CAPITAL & FUNDING READINESS
- OPERATIONS, SYSTEMS & SCALING
- SALES STRATEGY & REVENUE DEVELOPMENT
- PROCUREMENT, CONTRACTING & SUPPLIER READINESS



# AGRIQUACULTURE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Established in 2024 with the support of Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr., the AgriAquaculture Center of Excellence (AACE) is Louisiana's largest closed-loop hydroponic aquaculture facility and a catalyst for innovation in sustainable agriculture. Located in Harvey, the 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art center integrates production, business incubation, workforce training, and STEM-based learning to advance the region's AgriAquaculture industry. Through hands-on education, applied research, and entrepreneurial support, AACE expands pathways into agricultural STEM and environmental careers while increasing access to fresh, nutrient-rich food in food deserts and rural communities. The Center empowers small and emerging agribusinesses—particularly those serving Jefferson Parish and the greater New Orleans region—by providing modern infrastructure, technical expertise, and scalable solutions that strengthen food systems and promote long-term community resilience.

**50,227**

heads of lettuce totaling  
13,985lbs

**10,000**

Sqft Campus includes warehouse,  
greenhouse, nurse & office

**44**

Donations to community and  
philanthropic organizations



VIEW OUR FULL AACE PRESENTATION



# INNOVATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Innovation and Economic Development leads statewide projects that strengthen Louisiana's economic landscape across housing, agriculture, workforce training, commercial development, and community health. These projects position the foundation as a statewide engine for catalytic growth, innovation, and long-term community sustainability.

## HEADQUARTERS & SATELLITE OFFICE'S

- 2020 St. Charles Ave, New Orleans, LA
- 1000 ExxonMobil Parkway, Baton Rouge, LA
- 2927 Hodges St., Lake Charles, LA

## AGRIAQUACULTURE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE & EXPANSION

651 Leson Ct., Harvey, LA

## CENTER FOR BUSINESS INNOVATION AND GROWTH

6767 Bundy Road, New Orleans, LA

## UNIVERSITY EXPANSION PARTNERSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURE

STATEWIDE  
Ruston & Monroe, La.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER, AND TRAINING FACILITY

**Launch Louisiana BIC**  
Lake Charles, LA



# ACADEMIC & INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

Academic and Institutional Relations strengthens Louisiana's talent pipeline by forging deep, strategic partnerships with colleges and universities across the state. Through cooperative agreements, applied research, and workforce-aligned programming, we help cultivate future leaders while advancing data-driven solutions that support innovation, economic mobility, and long-term growth within Louisiana's business ecosystem.



**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**  
OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PARTNER



**GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY**  
OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PARTNER



**LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
COLLABORATIVE PARTNER



**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA MONROE**  
COLLABORATIVE PARTNER

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE PARTNERS



# ANNUAL EVENTS

Each year, the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation offers meaningful opportunities for partners to support a portfolio of high-impact events that convene leaders, elevate small businesses, and drive statewide economic growth. Through annual programs such as Chamber Day at the Capitol, Louisiana Leads Awards, and Business at Bayou Classic, supporters help advance advocacy, innovation, workforce development, and community-centered solutions that strengthen Louisiana's business ecosystem.

## CHAMBER DAY AT THE CAPITAL (QUARTER 2)

The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation hosts its Annual Chamber Day at the Capitol each spring, uniting affiliate chamber leaders from all 64 parishes. Chamber leaders receive key insights and updates on economic conditions, available resources, and growth opportunities from the administration. Representatives from the Office of Economic Development and the Governor's Cabinet provide essential information to support small business growth.

## LOUISIANA LEADS AWARDS (QUARTER 3)

The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Annual Louisiana Leads Awards Program celebrates the achievements of LCCF and its affiliate chambers in driving economic development statewide. This distinguished event honors excellence in categories such as City Leaders, Agency Leaders, Chamber of the Year, Large Company of the Year, and Small Company of the Year. As a culminating experience, it highlights the leadership and contributions that have propelled economic growth across Louisiana.

## BUSINESS AT BAYOU CLASSIC (QUARTER 4)

The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Annual Business at Bayou Classic transforms the excitement of the historic Southern vs. Grambling rivalry into a premier business showcase. Held the Friday before game day, this dynamic trade show features 100+ businesses, engaging panels, and resource vendors, providing a unique platform for networking, product showcasing, and fostering connections within our vibrant business community.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Compucure, Inc.

Michael Meredith  
Officer – CEO VPG Enterprise

Dr. Adraine Conrad  
Secretary – President at  
Embracing Community Care,  
LLC

Arkebia Matthews Johnson  
Officer – President & CEO at  
Choice Marketing Group, LLC

Musheerah Cambrice  
Treasurer – Operations  
Manager – Ultimate Health,  
Inc.

Jeannine B. Scott  
Officer- America to Africa  
Consulting, LLC

Corey Jack, MBA  
Officer - Owner and Principal  
Consultant at Jack &  
Associates

**We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to  
drive economic development across Louisiana.**



**Contact** The Louisiana Chamber Of Commerce Foundation

[www.lachamberfoundation.org](http://www.lachamberfoundation.org) [communications@labizspeaks.org](mailto:communications@labizspeaks.org)

2020 St. Charles Ave, 5th floor, New Orleans, LA. 504.208.9299



# Driving the Economic Growth of Louisiana.

Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation

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