



# BEAUFORT, SC

REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Let's Do Business.*

# Together.





# *Who* **WE ARE**

## **The Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce is:**

An independent network of local leaders representing business of every size and sector.

Advocates for a strong business climate and a prosperous future for the Beaufort region.

United by a belief that successful businesses are the cornerstone of a thriving community.

# *What* **WE DO**

## **Support Local Businesses**

through Advocacy, Information, and Connections

## **Grow the Economy**

through Partnerships, Sectors, and Military

## **Build Leadership Capacity**

through Vision, Insight and Organization

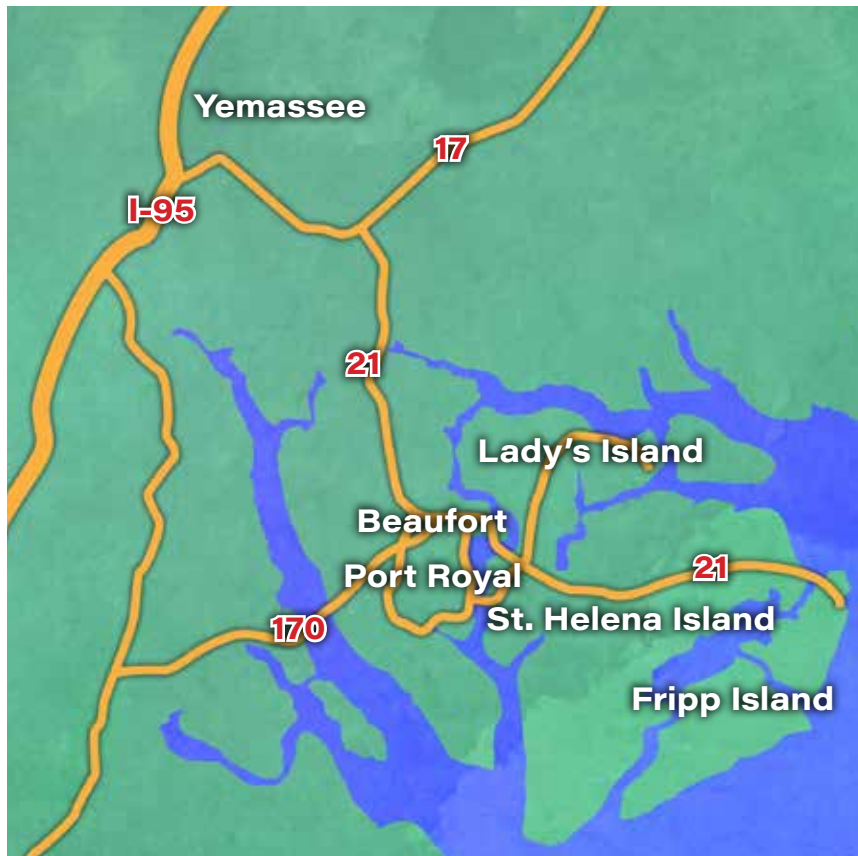
# *Our* **VISION**

A thriving region based on a resilient economy, today and for the future.

# *Our* **MISSION**

We promote economic prosperity to enhance the well-being of everyone in our region.

# *Our* **REGION**







# *Support* **Local Businesses**

Successful, profitable local businesses are the backbone of a vibrant regional economy. The Chamber provides advocacy, information and connections that help local businesses prosper.

## **Advocacy**

- Actionable public policy agenda to improve the region's business climate.
- Dialog with local, state, and federal elected officials to advocate for businesses.

## **Information**

- Curated news, perspectives, resources and promotion opportunities.
- Seminars with innovative thinkers and best practice leaders.

## **Connections**

- Frequent, well-organized opportunities to interact with other business leaders.
- Unique ways to brand your business and reach target customers.

*Let's do business. Together.*

## **Key Sectors**

Military & Defense

Hospitality & Leisure

Advanced Manufacturing

Technology & Cyber Security

Health Care & Wellness

Real Estate Development



# *Build* Leadership Capacity

A prosperous future demands planning and advocacy today by visionary leaders with reliable information through a well-equipped organization.

## **Vision**

- Use convening power of the Chamber Board to engage with regional leaders from other sectors.
- Engage chamber members in future visioning through events and surveys.

## **Insight**

- Track and report on key regional economic, workforce, and demographic data.
- Publish reports, release op-eds, and offer commentary about significant regional issues.

## **Organization**

- Grow membership and revenue by attracting new members and upgrade existing members.
- Deepen member engagement in strategic work areas

*Let's Shape the Future.* **Together.**

# *Grow* the Economy

Multiple strong employment sectors will create a more resilient economy. The Chamber works with partners to promote the region's target growth sectors and strengthen existing economic pillars, specifically the region's military installations.

## **Partnerships**

- Establish partnerships with allied organizations working to promote economic growth.
- Use advocacy, convening and communication strengths to advance partner's missions.

## **Sectors**

- Convene member businesses by economic sector to assess needs and explore opportunities.
- Organize work groups and share economic/employment data to advance key sectors.

## **Military**

- Advocate for policies, programs and investments needed to secure the region's military missions.
- Identify and promote opportunities to attract complementary missions by building on existing assets.

*Let's create jobs.* **Together.**





# Signature

## EVENTS

The Chamber's signature events are annual milestones for the business community. They are designed to connect individuals, create business opportunities, and propel the Chamber's mission.

### Economic Forecast

At this morning event our guest speaker will explain national trends shaping the economy over the coming year. We will also highlight local economic bright spots and track progress with our region's Prosperity Dashboard.

### Legislative Reception

Mix with elected officials and local business leaders over a glass of wine as we recap pro-business public policy enacted at the Statehouse during the legislative session.

### Educator Appreciation Event

Thank the people who devote their lives to inspiring young minds. This expo format event will also give businesses a chance to reach hundreds of household decision makers.

### Civitas Awards

A popular event designed to recognize outstanding individuals and organizations in our community. Celebrate with the community's leaders with great food, music and awards presentations.

### Military Appreciation Day

Join for a community-wide celebration of everyone who wears or has ever worn the uniform – active duty, retirees, veterans and their families – featuring live music, food, family activities and exhibitor space.

# Member PROGRAMS

The Chamber organizes multiple opportunities each month for members to connect, learn and do business.

## Coffee with Colleagues

Begin the workday by making a new contact. These monthly events are designed for busy people to network while enjoying their morning coffee. Members have an opportunity to host.

## Business After Hours

Socialize and reconnect over a drink and a bite at an area business. These monthly events are an opportunity to wind down while networking. Members have an opportunity to host.

## Workshops

Offered electronically or in-person, Chamber workshops connect members to timely and practical information and training to apply in their business.

## Grand Openings and Milestone Celebrations

The Beaufort region celebrates business investments. Let the Chamber help mark your business opening, anniversary or milestone with a ribbon cutting event.

# Leadership PROGRAMS

## Leadership Beaufort

Established in 1985, Leadership Beaufort is a 9-month, cohort-based community immersion program. Selected participants get a holistic view of the region and learn how to make a difference.

## Leadership Alumni

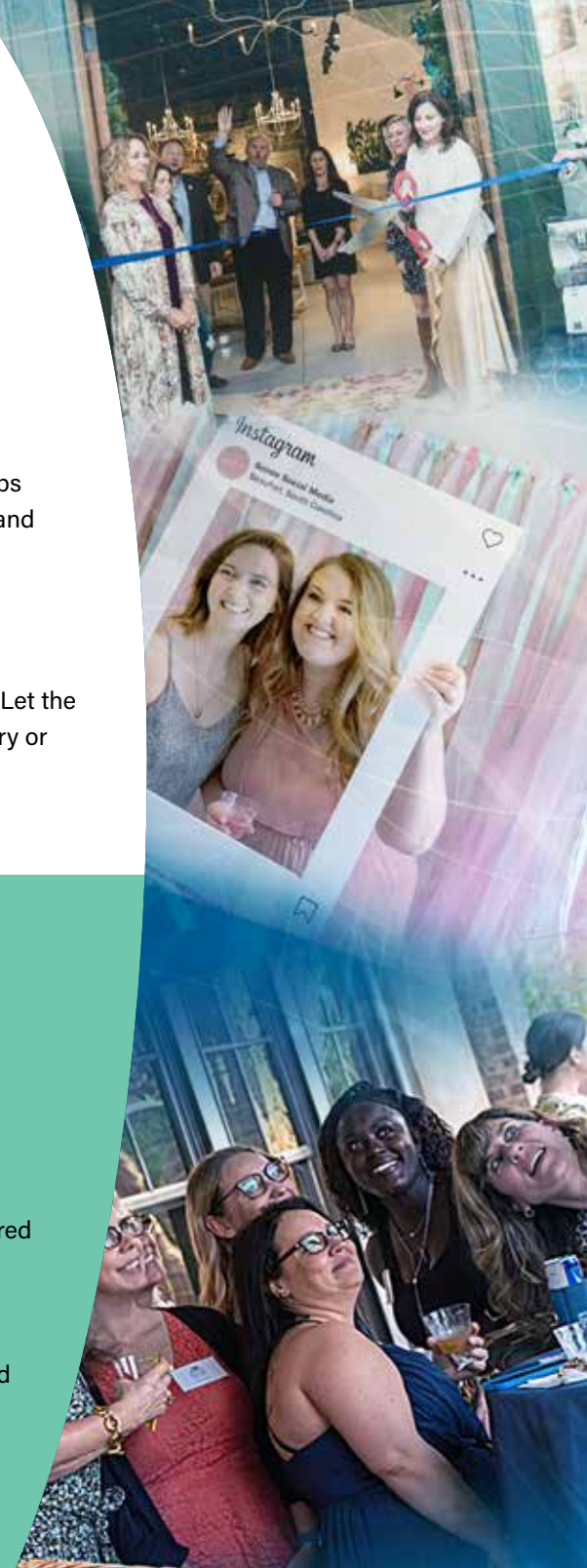
Program graduates continue community engagement and keep connections strong through an active alumni group.

## Senior Leadership

Similar in structure to Leadership Beaufort, the senior program offers a smaller group and a program structured targeted for retired community members.

## Junior Leadership

Designed to expose high school students to career and engagement opportunities in their community.







# COMMITTEES *and* COUNCILS

## Finance Committee

Provides oversight of resources and works to ensure the Chamber is financially and operationally equipped to accomplish its mission. Comprised of sitting Board Members

**Chair:** Liz Mitchum, Adams Outdoor Advertising

## Public Policy Committee

Monitors local, state and federal public policy issues germane to the Chamber, and recommends new legislative priorities and positions to the Board of Directors. Members are appointed by the Board Chair.

**Chair:** Kendall Erickson, Robinson Grant & Co.

## Nominating Committee

Provides oversight of resources and works to ensure the Chamber is financially and operationally equipped to accomplish its mission. Comprised of sitting Board Members and emeritus chairmen of the board.

## Community Advancement Council

Member forum to discuss emerging issues relevant to promoting the region's economic prosperity.

## Lowcountry Land Council

Member forum to discuss emerging issues relevant to promoting the region's economic prosperity.

## Chamber Ambassadors

Ambassadors actively promote membership in the Chamber, facilitate networking among members and encourage meaningful participation and involvement in Chamber programs.

# MILITARY

The Beaufort region is home to three military installations - Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, and Naval Hospital Beaufort - which house multiple training and force readiness missions that are vital to national defense. Combined, the installations generate \$2.5 billion annually in economic activity annually and support nearly 20,000 people.

The Military Enhancement Committee (MEC) of Beaufort County works with community and government partners to sustain and enhance the quality and value of the military installations of Beaufort County. The MEC is comprised of nine voting members appointed by public and private entities from around the region.

**Chair:** Col. Neal Pugliese, USMC-ret.







# Chamber LEADERSHIP

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is a group of dedicated volunteers who establish policy and set strategic direction for the Chamber.

## Executive Committee

**Graham Somerall**, Hargray

**Nick Mesenburg**, Lockheed Martin

**Jennifer Tuckwiller**, Carolina Air, Inc.

**Liz Mitchum**, Adams Outdoor Advertising

**Mark Cutler**, Ameris Bank

## Chamber Staff

The Chamber's professional team works every day to support member businesses and execute the Chamber's strategic plan.

**Ian D. Scott**, President & CEO

**Megan Morris**, Vice President

**Susan Fogleman**, Membership Development Director

**Hannah Myatt**, Operations Manager

**Myrna Cruz**, Financial Controller

## Board Members

**Russell Baxley**, Beaufort Memorial Hospital

**Jessica Bridges**, Technical College of the Lowcountry

**Roger Bright**, Forino Builders

**Ben Copping**, Copping Law Firm, LLC

**Dr. Caroline Fermin**, Beaufort County Veterans Affairs

**Jason Ferrell**, Blythe Construction, Inc.

**Chris Fisher**, Glass Eco Surfaces

**Hope Lanier Freeman**, BP America

**Lauren Gadd**, Fripp Island Resort

**Janet Gresham**, Beaufort-Jasper County REALTORS

**Veronica Hemmingway**, Coastal Community Foundation

**Ethan James**, Charter One Realty

**Dr. Martha Moriarty**, Ph.D., University of South Carolina Beaufort

**Lisa Philp**, Mitchell Brothers, LLC

**Whit Suber**, SC21, LLC

**Thomas Tayloe**, Kinghorn Insurance Agency of Beaufort

**Gamar Watts**, Jah'Lion Grill & Bar

**Rita Wilson**, AlphaGraphics

**Courtney Worrell**, 303 Associates



# Leadership Circle INVESTORS

Current as of 10/1/2023

Investments by these businesses and organizations advance the Chamber's mission and sustain its operation.

## Visionaries



Beaufort Memorial



## Champions



## Advocates



BEAUFORT-JASPER  
COUNTY REALTORS®



NATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY



Bob Hydorn,  
Realtor®





## Partners

Adams Outdoor Advertising	Jah' Lion Grill & Bar
Alpha Genesis, Inc.	LS3P Associates
Beaufort County	Magnus Development Partners, LLC
Beaufort County School District	Mitchell Brothers, Inc.
Beaufort Inn	Pepsi Beverages Company of Beaufort
Better Collision	Power Washing Man
Bottomline Development Group	Regions Bank
Brunson Construction Company	SC21, LLC
Butler Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram	South Atlantic Bank
CENTURY 21 Coastal Town Realty	South State Bank
Clark Landscaping	Sprenger Health Care Systems
Coastal States Bank	Stay Strong Fitness
Coppage Law Firm, LLC	Stinger Home Management
Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Bluffton	Technical College of the Lowcountry
First Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of SC	Town of Yemassee
Forino Company	University of South Carolina Beaufort
Habersham Land Company	VIVO Living Port Royal
Harvey & Battey, P.A.	Wood + Partners, Inc.



# BEAUFORT, SC

## REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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