

N.C. Rural Economic Development Center

Annual Report



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N.C. Rural Economic Development Center

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Rural Center Appropriations: An Overview	3
General Administration	7
Water and Sewer Grants Programs	8
Research and Innovation Programs	17
Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program	24
Business Finance Programs	30
Community Economic Development Grants Program	33
Agricultural Advancement Consortium	35
Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship	36
Workforce Development	39
Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development	43
Opportunities Industrialization Centers	44
Appendices	
Financial Statement	A
Summary of Rural Center Board Meetings	B
Clean Water Partners Grants	C
Water and Sewer Recurring Appropriation Grants	D
Clean Water Bonds Grants	E
Economic Infrastructure Program Core Grants	F
Economic Infrastructure Program Rural Jobs Grants	G
N.C. Small Towns Economic Prosperity Program	H
Economic Innovation Grants	I
Building Reuse Program Vacant Building Grants	J
Building Reuse Program Rural Jobs Fund/Occupied Building Grants	K
Building Reuse Rural Hope Grants	L
Community Development Corporation Profiles	M
Agricultural Advancement Consortium Grants	N
Rural Community Mobilization Grants	O
New Generation Careers Grants	P
Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development	Q
Opportunities Industrialization Centers	R

INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center Inc. respectfully submits this report of activities to the Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the General Assembly's Fiscal Research Division. As required, this report details the Rural Center's work during the period July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012.

All programmatic activity described here has been carried out in accordance with the center's mission, which is to develop, implement and promote sound economic strategies that improve the lives of rural North Carolinians, with a special focus on individuals with low to moderate incomes and communities with limited resources.

To accomplish its mission and comply with the funding requirements of the General Assembly, the center operates a multifaceted program that includes: conducting research into rural issues; testing promising rural development strategies; advocating for policy and program innovations; and building the productive capacity of rural leaders, entrepreneurs and community organizations.

Oversight for the annual development of the Rural Center's plan of work, for all funding decisions and for program implementation comes from the center's board of directors. (See Appendix B for a summary of board meetings.)

Summarized below are major initiatives of the Rural Center during the period covered by this report. These initiatives required substantial time and leadership by the board of directors, president and center staff.

Major Initiatives

Job-creating Infrastructure: Created more than 1,000 jobs with \$8.6 million in grants from the Economic Infrastructure Program, providing public water, sewer and other infrastructure to enable new business locations and expansions.

Building Reuse and Restoration: Awarded \$11.6 million to help communities return vacant buildings to productive use and create over 1,200 jobs.

Rural Jobs Fund: Awarded \$4.8 million for new categories of job-generating infrastructure and for business expansions in existing infrastructure, resulting in nearly 1,000 new jobs.

Critical Water Needs: Continued to address water and sewer infrastructure projects that answer issues related to human health and the environment, awarding \$2.6 million in grants for construction projections and \$700,000 for planning activity. Technical assistance and training programs were targeted to improving local capacity to plan and carry out water and sewer projects.

Rural Hope (Rural Health Care Initiative): Awarded approximately \$850,000 to build or renovate 12 health care facilities, leading to 106 jobs in health care. Partnerships created under the Rural Hope umbrella funded an additional 29 projects.

Business Finance: Through the federally funded N.C. Small Business Credit Initiative, enabled nearly \$60 million in capital for 175 businesses. In addition, the N.C. Microenterprise Loan Program lent over \$500,000 to 40 borrowers, creating 106 jobs.

Recession Response: Continued two highly successful projects aimed at helping laid-off rural workers return to gainful employment. The Rural Community Mobilization Project encourages community organizations to collaborate on workforce development strategies, with a focus on high-demand fields. Since 2009, Project GATE (Growing America Through Entrepreneurship) has guided 150 laid-off workers in starting their own businesses, leading to the creation of 400 jobs.

New Generation Initiative: Launched a three-year initiative to tackle one of the major concerns of rural communities, the out-migration of young people. Through four programs, the initiative seeks to engage young people in the economic and civic life of the communities in which they live.

Rural Manufacturing: Initiated a critical examination of North Carolina manufacturing, covering trends, supply chain analysis and opportunities for growth. The center and partnering organizations, aided by a federal grant, also have committed to a three-year effort to strengthen aerospace and automotive manufacturing in six eastern counties.

Strengthening N.C. Agriculture: Initiated an examination of the challenges and opportunities in farming.

RURAL CENTER APPROPRIATIONS: AN OVERVIEW

The N.C. General Assembly appropriates funds to the Rural Economic Development Center to support a variety of activities designed to improve the economic vitality and quality of life in North Carolina's 85 rural counties. This money is channeled directly into those communities, largely through grant programs, with the majority supporting projects that will lead directly to job creation.

This report describes the programs and initiatives the center has carried out as a result of these appropriations and certain other activities the center undertook by leveraging state funding with additional investments by federal, private and nonprofit sources. The bulk of the report is organized along programmatic lines to provide the clearest explanation of the center's activities and accomplishments. Appropriations sometimes cross programmatic areas, and some programs receive funding through more than one channel. For this reason, it is useful to begin with an overview of state appropriations, the activities they support and where additional details may be found.

Base Appropriation Continuation Budget	FY12 \$
Center Administration, Technical Assistance and Oversight	1,302,165
Research and Demonstration	294,120
Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship	114,570
Community Economic Development Grants	844,258
Microenterprise Loan Program	155,610
Water/Sewer/Business Development Matching Grants	701,955
Statewide Water/Sewer Database	79,523
Agricultural Advancement Consortium	91,490
<u>Economic Infrastructure Fund</u>	<u>16,505,758</u>
	20,089,449
Administered Funds	
Opportunities Industrialization Center Funds	287,280
Nonrecurring Items	
<u>Rural Jobs Fund</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>
	25,376,729

Center Administration, Technical Assistance and Oversight: This appropriation supports the center's general operating costs, including the work of the board of directors, the president's office and the fiscal staff (for more details, see page 7); technical assistance and oversight of the Research and Demonstration Grants Program and Office of Workforce Development (pages 20 and 39); administration of the Community Economic Development Grants Program (page 33); and administration of the Agricultural Advancement Consortium (page 35).

FY12 Allocation

General Administration: \$849,015

Technical Assistance and Center Administration of R&D Grants: \$353,970

Administration of Community Economic Development Grants Program: \$39,330

Administration of Agricultural Advancement Consortium: \$59,850

Research and Demonstration: These appropriations support research and demonstration projects. Priority is awarded to projects that focus on critical issues identified by the Rural Center board of directors. For more details, see page 20.

Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship: Established in 2003, the institute works to create a culture of entrepreneurship in communities across rural North Carolina. It is a part of the center's Office of Business Development. This appropriation supports the overall work of the institute. For more details, see page 36.

Community Economic Development Grants: One of the longest-running programs of the Rural Center, this program provides grants for operational and staff support for community development corporations working in low-income and minority communities. The organizations raise additional money to carry out projects that encourage home ownership, promote small business development and provide educational and civic programming. For more details, see page 33.

Microenterprise Loan Program: In operation since 1989, the North Carolina Microenterprise Loan Program provides rural people with small business loans to help them become self-sufficient through business ownership. It operates in all 85 rural counties. Loans are capped at \$25,000 and combined with business planning and technical assistance. The program is capitalized at \$2.3 million. Capital was provided by early appropriations and earnings on those funds. Annual appropriations support ongoing operations. For more details, see page 30.

Water/Sewer/Business Development Matching Grants: This money supports two programs.

FY12 Allocation

Water and Sewer Supplemental Grants Program: \$536,940

Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development: \$165,015

The *Water and Sewer Supplemental Grants Program* enables local governments and qualified nonprofit corporations to improve water and sewer systems by providing funds to match grants and loans from other sources. It was established by the General Assembly in 1993-94. For more details, see page 9.

The *Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development Program* provides grants to worthy emergency projects that might otherwise be outside the timeline or geographic area of a specific Rural Center grant program. For more details, see page 43.

Statewide Water/Sewer Database: The Rural Center’s Water 2030 Initiative collected extensive documentation on water and sewer infrastructure throughout North Carolina and identified \$16.6 billion in investments needed by 2030. It also assessed the availability and adequacy of the state’s water resources. Mapping and condition assessments were completed in 2005. Continuing appropriations cover maintaining and upgrading the water resources database and additional mapping efforts. For more details, see page 14.

Agricultural Advancement Consortium: Established by the General Assembly and housed at the Rural Center, the consortium promotes the benefits of a strong farm sector and considers ways to increase farm profitability. It conducts original research and provides grants to promising research and demonstration projects. For more details, see page 35.

Economic Infrastructure Fund: The General Assembly created the Economic Infrastructure Fund in 2004 in response to significant job losses from recession and economic restructuring. It provides a multifaceted approach to encourage business growth and create jobs in struggling rural communities.

FY12 Allocation

Job-Generating Infrastructure Grants: \$4,176,580

Economic Innovation Grants: \$4,300,000

Building Reuse and Restoration Grants: \$4,000,000

Rural Hope (Rural Health Care) Grants: \$1,600,000

Small Towns Program: \$1,400,000

Community Mobilization: \$700,000

Administration: \$329,178

Job-generating infrastructure grants assist communities with infrastructure projects tied directly to new business locations or expansions and related job growth. These funds are administered through the center’s Physical Infrastructure Office. For more details, see page 11. Also see the Rural Jobs Fund.

The Economic Innovation Grants Program funds projects that stimulate the economies of small towns and rural communities hard hit by the effects of structural changes in the economy, natural disasters and persistent poverty. Grants spur business activity, job creation and public/private investment. These funds are administered through the center’s Office of Research and Innovation. For more details, see page 21.

The Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program helps communities create jobs through investments in real property. Building reuse grants help prepare vacant buildings for new, private-sector businesses. For more details, see page 24. Also see the Rural Jobs Fund.

Rural Hope (Rural Health Care) grants assist in the construction and/or renovation of rural health care facilities if those projects create jobs. For more details, see page 24.

The North Carolina Small Towns Economic Prosperity Program combines grantmaking and technical assistance to encourage economic revitalization of small towns. For more details, see page 18.

Opportunities Industrialization Centers: The Rural Center administers funds appropriated to the Opportunities Industrialization Centers on behalf of the General Assembly. An explanation of the program may be found on page 44 with additional details on funded centers in Appendix R.

Rural Jobs Fund: The General Assembly appropriated \$5 million in nonrecurring funds to expand two of the center's job creation programs to additional types of projects. Through this appropriation, the center can assist job-creating projects by funding 1) access roads not funded by the N.C. Department of Transportation, rail spurs and a variety of on-site water and sewer infrastructure and 2) the expansion and renovation of buildings occupied by manufacturing-type businesses. For more details, see pages 11 and 24.

FY12 Allocation

Job-Generating Infrastructure Grants: \$2,400,000

Building Reuse and Restoration Grants: \$2,400,000

Administration: \$200,000

This report also covers progress in some ongoing programs not funded through FY12 appropriations:

Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program: The General Assembly created the Clean Water Partners Program in FY08 as part of its continuing commitment to help rural and low-wealth communities finance critical water and wastewater projects. It has made two one-time appropriations, totaling nearly \$150 million, for this purpose. For more details, see page 8.

Clean Water Bonds: The Clean Water Bond Act of 1998 funded a competitive grants program from 1999 to 2005. Grants awarded through this fund since 2005 have resulted from money deobligated from previously funded projects. For more details, see page 11.

Small Business Funds: In FY10 and FY11, appropriations supported the Small Business Assistance Fund, a loan loss reserve pool to support existing small businesses. The program is operated in conjunction with Self-Help. For more details, see page 31.

Also not funded in this fiscal year, the e-NC Authority was a state authority housed and staffed by the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center. Under a sunset provision, the authority formally ceased to exist December 31, 2011, and its ongoing projects were moved to the N.C. Department of Commerce.

Each chapter of this report includes a program description and a summary of activity for Fiscal Year 2012. For grant programs with multiple awards, the narrative is followed by a table listing all grants awarded during the fiscal year. A corresponding appendix offers a brief summary of each grant. Rural Center statement of revenues, expenses and charges in net assets, and other background material are included in the appendices.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The General Assembly allocated \$1,302,165 to the center in FY12 for center administration, technical assistance and oversight. These funds, augmented by approximately \$1.5 million from other sources, have supported the work of the board of directors, administrative management, and the fiscal, research and communications staff as well as standard administrative operating costs.

For FY13, the center's adjusted appropriation for center administration, technical assistance and oversight of \$1,276,122 must again be supplemented by approximately \$1.4 million from other sources for the center to continue to provide high quality oversight and administrative support services as the reach of the center's programs expands and its policy efforts generate visible statewide impact.

WATER AND SEWER GRANTS PROGRAMS

Program Statement: The Physical Infrastructure Office operates grant programs designed to address water and sewer infrastructure problems affecting public health and the environment or to assist in the construction of water, sewer and other types of infrastructure that will lead to job creation in the private sector. The office also engages in water resource policy and data development.

CRITICAL NEEDS GRANTS PROGRAMS

Critical needs grant programs address problems affecting public health and the environment and include those funded from the Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program, from a recurring appropriation to the center and from the 1998 Clean Water Bonds. These programs were developed to help mitigate public health threats and environmental contamination caused by failing private wells and septic systems or by failing public water and sewer systems.

Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program

The Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program was first capitalized in FY08 with a \$100 million appropriation. A second cash infusion of \$45.5 million came in FY09. The program provides for two types of grants: supplemental (construction) and planning.

Supplemental grants are designed to complement other local, state or federal funds for infrastructure construction projects. Eligible applicants are rural counties or communities in rural counties. In addition, the applicant must pass a resolution to set the household user fee for water and sewer service in the area to be served by the project at least equal to 1.5 percent of the median household income. Grants are capped at \$500,000. A dollar-for-dollar match is required unless the applicant meets certain criteria.

No planning grants were awarded from Clean Water Partners fund in FY12.

FY12 Summary. Many construction bids came in below projections throughout 2010 and the early part of 2011. The Rural Center recaptured the excess grant funds. This recovery allowed grants for five new construction projects and additional grants for two previously funded projects that incurred cost overruns. Reviews and recommendations for these projects were consistent with all Clean Water Partners guidelines.

These 7 grants totaled approximately \$2.2 million and leveraged more than \$1.9 million in additional funding. The projects eliminated a failed septic system at a school in Alleghany County, extended a water line to eliminate contaminated wells in Wilkes County, made critically needed repairs to water treatment plants in the towns of Bakersville and Madison, replaced collapsed sewer lines in the town of Franklinville and addressed project cost overruns for the town of Middlesex and the Tuckasegee Water and Sewer Authority.

Clean Water Partners—Supplemental Grants— FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Alleghany	Alleghany County	Piney Creek Elementary School Sewer Improvements	\$384,000	\$192,000
Jackson	Tuckaseigee Water and Sewer Authority	Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 1 Expansion	\$300,000	
Mitchell	Town of Bakersville	Linda Lane Well Iron Removal System Project	\$300,000	\$333,400
Nash	Town of Middlesex	Water Supply and Distribution System Improvements	\$23,824	
Randolph	Town of Franklinville	Phase 1 Sewer System Improvements	\$500,000	\$642,750
Rockingham	Town of Madison	Water System Improvements - Aerations to Remove Trihalomethanes	\$380,000	\$440,000
Wilkes	Wilkes County	Hwy 268 East Water Extension	\$300,000	\$300,000

Total FY12 Clean Water Partners / Supplemental \$2,187,824 \$1,908,150

Please see Appendix C for project descriptions.

Recurring Appropriations

The General Assembly appropriates funds annually to the Rural Center to make matching grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations for water and sewer projects. The grants can fund necessary economic development projects in economically distressed counties, water and sewer projects needed to address problems related to public health or the environment, or projects that demonstrate alternative water and sewer management processes for local governments. Funds can be committed to planning or construction projects.

FY12 Summary: The Rural Center held one competitive round for planning grants from recurring appropriations. Planning grants assist rural communities in funding activities that must occur prior to construction. Examples include feasibility studies for a new sewer system, leak detection in water lines, preliminary engineering reports and smoke testing in sewer lines.

Eligible applicants for planning grants are economically distressed rural counties and economically distressed units of local government in rural counties.

The maximum award for a planning grant is \$40,000, and a dollar-for-dollar match is required. In FY12, the center awarded 26 planning grants totaling a little over \$700,000. This funding will allow several towns to develop asset management plans or preliminary engineering reports. Other projects will address water line leaks and inflow and infiltration into sewer lines. All of the projects address a documented critical need.

In addition, one supplemental grant of \$36,399 was awarded to Rutherford County from the recurring appropriation.

Recurring Appropriation Grants— FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Alleghany	Town of Sparta	Hydraulic Water Model, Water Audit and PER	\$20,000	\$20,000
Bladen	Town of Clarkton	2012 I/I Study	\$40,000	\$40,000
Bladen	Town of Elizabethtown	Water Supply Evaluation & PER	\$40,000	\$40,000
Bladen	Town of White Lake	Inflow & Infiltration Study	\$20,000	\$20,000
Burke	Town of Valdese	Inflow and Infiltration Study - Cline Pump Station Area	\$30,000	\$30,000
Caldwell	Town of Cahaj's Mountain	Wastewater Collection System Master Plan Update	\$13,100	\$13,100
Carteret	Town of Cedar Point	Wastewater Collection and Treatment System PER	\$15,750	\$15,750
Cleveland	City of Kings Mountain	Route Location and Environmental Study for a 36' Water Transmission Line	\$27,137	\$27,137
Columbus	Town of Lake Waccamaw	Asset Management Plan	\$15,000	\$15,000
Johnston	Town of Benson	Water Distribution System CIP	\$22,850	\$22,850
Jones	Town of Maysville	2012 I/I Study and Utility Infrastructure Assessment	\$40,000	\$40,000
Martin	Town of Robersonville	Wastewater Treatment Plant Evaluation	\$19,750	\$19,750
Mitchell	Town of Spruce Pine	Water System Asset Management Plan and Water Loss Audit	\$20,000	\$20,000
Montgomery	Town of Biscoe	Inflow and Infiltration Study	\$40,000	\$40,000
Polk	City of Saluda	Water Study	\$16,250	\$16,250
Polk	Town of Columbus	Water System PER and Asset Management Plan	\$22,000	\$22,000
Randolph	Town of Ramseur	Disinfection By-Products Study	\$27,562	\$27,562
Robeson	City of Lumberton	Sewer System Mapping Phase 3	\$40,000	\$40,000
Rockingham	City of Eden	Eden Upper Matrimony Creek Sewer Outfall Evaluation and PER	\$40,000	\$50,171
Rutherford	Town of Lake Lure	Asset Management Plan	\$10,500	\$10,500
Sampson	City of Clinton	2012 Utility Inventory and Assessment	\$40,000	\$40,000
Scotland	City of Laurinburg	Bridge & Leith Creek Outfalls Evaluation & PER	\$40,000	\$40,000
Stanly	City of Albemarle	Biosolids Handling Study	\$27,375	\$27,375
Stanly	Stanly County	Wastewater Evaluation (Airport Corridor)	\$40,000	\$40,000
Surry	Yadkin Valley Sewer Authority	Pretreatment Program Planning Project	\$25,000	\$25,000
Wayne	Town of Fremont	Lagoon Investigation	\$8,138	\$8,138
Total FY12 Appropriation / Planning			\$700,412	\$710,582

Please see Appendix D for project descriptions.

Clean Water Bonds

Of the \$800 million that the Clean Water Bond Act of 1998 earmarked for water and sewer infrastructure, the Rural Center received \$240 million to administer. Three programs were capitalized with these funds: capacity building grants, for planning activities associated with water and sewer construction; supplemental grants, to supplement other local, state and federal funds for construction; and unsewered communities grants, to assist in the installation of sewer collection and treatment systems in communities where no central wastewater systems existed. The funds were granted on a competitive basis from 1999 to 2005. Grants awarded through this fund since 2005 have resulted from money deobligated from previously funded projects.

FY12 Summary. In FY12, three new grants were awarded. With these grants, Mayodan upgraded a severely deteriorated raw water intake structure, Sanford extended water lines to serve six families with contaminated wells and Roanoke Rapids purchased a camera system to identify and repair areas of deteriorated lines. In addition, the Maple Hill Sewer District received an increase to a previous grant to cover a bid overrun.

Clean Water Bond Grants— FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Halifax	City of Roanoke Rapids	Storm Drainage Camera System	\$67,500	\$7,500
Lee	City of Sanford	Hillcrest Farm Road Waterline Extension	\$50,000	\$5,000
Pender	Maple Hill Sewer District	Wastewater Treatment and Collection for The Maple Hill Sewer District	\$225,386	\$1,000
Rockingham	Town of Mayodan	2011 Raw Water Intake Improvements NCRC Supplemental Grant Application	\$300,000	\$200,000
Total FY12 Clean Water Bond			\$642,886	\$213,500

Please see Appendix E for project descriptions.

JOB CREATING GRANTS PROGRAM

Economic Infrastructure Grants

The Economic Infrastructure Program, created in 2004, funds rural infrastructure projects associated with an expanding business or a new business location. These projects must lead directly to new, full-time jobs in the private sector.

Under the core Economic Infrastructure Fund, grants may benefit public water and sewer, natural gas or broadband infrastructure improvements, although most have applied to water and sewer projects. For these projects, grants are available for up to \$10,000 per job created, for a maximum of \$1 million or one-half of the total infrastructure project cost, whichever is less.

The Rural Jobs Fund, created in 2011, allowed the Economic Infrastructure Program to expand into other areas of infrastructure. The program can now fund industrial access roads not funded by the N.C. Department of Transportation, rail spurs and a variety of

on-site water and sewer infrastructure. Grants supported by the Rural Jobs Fund are limited to \$5,000 per job and capped at a maximum of \$500,000 or one-half of the total infrastructure project cost, whichever is less.

For all Economic Infrastructure Program grants, the positions created must be full-time jobs, paying at least minimum wage and conveying all benefits due other employees in the same classification. A performance agreement promising to create a specific number of jobs must be executed between the business creating the jobs and the local government applying for the grant. This contract contains a “claw-back” provision allowing the Rural Center to recapture any funds expended without correlating job creation. Grants are awarded to projects that meet program criteria and go through a three-step process involving a pre-application, a pre-application conference and submission of a full application with an executed performance agreement.

FY12 Activity: Thirty-one grants totaling \$8.6 million were awarded in FY12 for projects from the core program. These projects will leverage \$24 million in additional funding, serve 28 businesses and create more than 1,020 jobs. Seven grants totaling almost \$2.4 million were awarded from the Rural Jobs Fund. These projects will leverage nearly \$6.5 million in additional funding, serve 7 businesses and create 475 jobs. Some projects received funding in both core and Rural Jobs Fund categories; jobs identified for each project were discrete. In addition, because eligible applications exceeded the Rural Jobs Fund appropriation, some of these awards were made using the core Economic Infrastructure Program appropriation. In these cases, only the source of funding changed; the amounts and requirements were consistent with the Rural Jobs Fund.

As a result of these grants, the Economic Infrastructure Program will lead to the creation of 90 jobs at a bath tissue manufacturing and distribution facility, 54 jobs at a brewery’s manufacturing and distribution facility in western North Carolina, 36 jobs at an aseptic food processing company in the Piedmont and 62 jobs by a new wood pellet processing company locating in a Tier 1 eastern county.

Economic Infrastructure Program —Core Program Grants— FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Anson	Town of Wadesboro	Cobb-Vantress Infrastructure Project	\$20,000	\$240,000	1	2
Burke	Town of Valdese	Kleen Tech, Inc. Wastewater Project	\$150,000	\$500,000	1	15
Cleveland	City of Shelby	Baldor Electric - Replace Sewer Lift Station	\$137,190	\$137,190	1	14
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Project Cardinal Water Line	\$687,909	\$687,910	1	69
Davie	Davie County	Davie County Hospital Project	\$500,000	\$736,462		50
Davie	Davie County	Project Top Drawer (Ashley Furniture Industries, Inc.)	\$750,100	\$750,100	1	76
Duplin	Duplin County	National Salvage and Service Corporation Sewer Improvements	\$150,000	\$1,077,400	1	30

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Harnett	City of Dunn	Sewer System to Love's Travel Stop	\$70,000	\$1,480,000	1	7
Harnett	Harnett County	Harnett Science & Technology Campus - Harnett Health Service Infrastructure Improvements	\$200,000	\$12,836		20
Harnett	Harnett County	Campbell University Medical School - Water, Sewer, Natural Gas & Fiber Optic Infrastructure Improvements	\$351,251	\$351,254	1	36
Henderson	Henderson County	Sierra Nevada Brewing Company Water Line	\$105,166	\$315,499	1	11
Henderson	Henderson County	Sierra Nevada Brewing Company Water & Wastewater Improvements	\$212,813	\$212,813	1	43
Hertford	Hertford County	Structural Coatings Hertford, LLC	\$200,000	\$200,700	1	40
Johnston	Town of Clayton	Source Recycling Public Water & Sewer Improvements	\$39,398	\$39,399	1	4
Johnston	Town of Clayton	Source Recycling Roadway Improvements	\$130,000	\$276,799	1	26
Johnston	Town of Selma	Agrium Economic Development	\$40,000	\$627,300	1	8
Jones	Town of Maysville	Green Recycling Solutions, LLC Access Road	\$150,000	\$437,500	1	30
Lee	City of Sanford	Warehouse and Distribution Facility Expansion	\$290,000	\$310,450	1	58
Lenoir	City of Kinston	Smithfield Foods, Inc. / Lift Station and Forcemain Installation	\$1,000,000	\$3,300,000	1	100
Montgomery	Town of Troy	Pump Station Rehabilitation - Water Meter Installation	\$87,500	\$87,500	1	9
Montgomery	Town of Troy	Wright Foods - Industrial Renovations and Access Improvements	\$130,455	\$130,455	1	27
Northampton	Northampton County	Enviva Infrastructure Project	\$620,000	\$3,029,088	1	62
Pender	Pender County	Thermic Green Private Access Road Project	\$150,000	\$150,000	1	30
Rutherford	Town of Spindale	Ameridial Fiber Infrastructure	\$10,809	\$10,810	1	2
Sampson	City of Clinton	Elevated Water Tank to Serve Smithfield Packing Company	\$885,000	\$885,000	1	89
Stanly	City of Locust	Cabarrus Family Medicine - Water & Sewer Infrastructure Improvements	\$78,938	\$82,189	1	8
Surry	Surry County	Interstates Water and Sewer District Economic Development Project	\$500,000			50
Union	Town of Indian Trail	Stone Theater / Sun Valley Commons, LLC	\$300,000	\$7,543,439	1	30
Vance	Vance County	Satterwhite Point Road Water Project	\$32,038	\$32,038	1	4
Washington	Town of Plymouth	Plymouth Solar Access Road	\$55,000	\$63,000	1	12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Watauga	Town of Blowing Rock	Hospital Services Expansion Project	\$585,495	\$585,495	1	59
Total FY12 Water & Sewer Economic Infrastructure			\$8,619,062	\$24,292,626	28	1,021

Please see Appendix F for project descriptions.

Economic Infrastructure Program -- Rural Jobs Fund Grants— FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Clearwater Paper Rail Improvements	\$445,500	\$445,500	1	90
Davie	Town of Mocksville	CPP Global Economic Development Project	\$327,320	\$346,960	1	66
Johnston	Town of Clayton	Project Bee Infrastructure Improvements	\$500,000	\$500,000	1	100
Lee	Lee County	Caterpillar / Lee County Industrial Park Road Improvements	\$500,000	\$1,009,905	1	100
Randolph	City of Trinity	Smoky T's BBQ Restaurant / Storm Water Detention Pond	\$20,000	\$20,000	1	4
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Project Chrysalis Rail Spur Improvements	\$500,000	\$4,021,531	1	100
Stanly	City of Locust	Cabarrus Family Medicine - Water & Sewer Infrastructure Improvements and Facility Access Road	\$78,750	\$118,720	1	15
Total FY12 Water & Sewer Economic Infrastructure (Rural Jobs)			\$2,371,570	\$6,462,616	7	475

Please see Appendix G for project descriptions.

STATEWIDE WATER-SEWER DATABASE

In 2004, the Rural Center collaborated with AMEC Earth and Environmental Inc. to develop water and sewer infrastructure maps and infrastructure condition assessments and to estimate the state's available water resources as part of the Water 2030 Initiative. Infrastructure mapping and condition assessment were completed in 2005, and the data were used to make a case for the \$150 million Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program in 2007 and 2008. The General Assembly has made a recurring appropriation to the center for maintaining and upgrading the water-sewer database.

FY12 Summary: The lack of useful agricultural water-use data for North Carolina had slowed completion of the water resources database. Previous water-use estimates in the

agricultural sector came from the state of Texas. Texas agriculture, however, is quite different from North Carolina agriculture.

The Rural Center required AMEC to identify better data sources for the North Carolina agricultural water use. AMEC's completion of work on new data was slowed by the firm's internal staffing changes. Meetings were held with corporate management, and a new team was assembled in March to complete the project. The new team members located crop data derived from the U.S. Department of Agriculture CropScape program and have made modifications specific to North Carolina. A final report is to be presented in early FY13.

No grants were awarded from the database funds during the fiscal year.

MONITORING, TRAINING AND OUTREACH

The Rural Center monitors grant projects, including compliance with reporting requirements, to their completion or beyond. The Physical Infrastructure Office currently monitors over 250 active grants.

To enhance the monitoring process, the office in FY11 initiated a large-scale program of site visits. These visits enable staff to conduct on-site reviews of files and payments, view construction activities and discuss any problems or potential new projects that communities might have. This effort was continued throughout FY12 with over 1,700 contact hours logged between Rural Center staff and grantees. Reports were filed for each visit and photos taken of ongoing construction as a record in the project file.

In addition to working with communities on current grants, the center provides training and technical assistance to improve communities' ability to manage their infrastructure and to make good development decisions. In FY12, the center continued to sponsor such programs. Activities included:

Energy Efficiency Workshop. This four-hour class, held at N.C. State University, was taught by staff from a large regional infrastructure engineering firm with offices throughout the southeastern United States. The course was designed to help engineers, municipal staff and treatment plant operators understand energy rate schedules, demand charges, system design and operation methods to reduce energy costs. The seminar was videotaped and will be available through the NCSU Industrial Extension Service to professional engineers and treatment plant operators for professional development credit. Proceeds will support the Engineering Interns Fellowship, which gives undergraduate engineering students experience in working in rural communities under the direction of a professional engineer.

Asset Management for Small Towns. Asset management is a risk management concept whereby a government knows and can locate its physical infrastructure; understands the age, condition and expected useful lifespan of the infrastructure; and plans accordingly. The intent of an asset management plan is to allow the infrastructure owner to make

financial decisions about rehabilitation and replacement, or even abandonment, of the asset, depending on the level of risk the owner is willing to take.

Purdue University is developing an approach to asset management that includes the identification of existing local businesses and potential business start-ups to provide needed infrastructure services. In FY12, the center hosted a seminar on this approach that drew representatives from each of the state's water and sewer funding agencies and from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Office.

The center also hosted a workshop in Valdese to train councils of government and N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources field office personnel in methods to assist local governments in developing asset management plans. This training was conducted by an international engineering firm with offices in Charlotte. The firm previously developed asset management training for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Collaboration with Other Agencies. The Rural Center continues to coordinate with other agencies to develop policy decisions on infrastructure finance and to train local governments. Each quarter, the center hosts a funders forum at which all water and sewer funders in North Carolina, including USDA, discuss areas of mutual concern and joint projects.

A funders fair is held during the center's Rural Partners Forum each year with representatives from grant funding agencies serving the state. Local government officials have the opportunity to visit each funder and discuss particular projects and funding possibilities.

For the second year in row, the Rural Center convened state funding agencies and collected information to produce an annual combined report to the General Assembly. The report summarizes funding from all state agencies for every active water and sewer project (730 total) in the state.

Rural Center staff participated in an Appalachian Regional Commission meeting with councils of government to learn of the federal funding outlooks for western North Carolina and how the center might partner with other agencies to meet the infrastructure needs of rural areas.

Rural Center staff participated with the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources and other funding agencies on developing compliance measures related to the state's 2008 Drought Bill and on defining economic distress for financial assistance programs. The center also hosted a new drinking water regulations seminar for local governments and their consultants.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMS

Program Statement: Since its creation in 1987, the Rural Center has served as North Carolina's leading organization for rural innovation. Through research and innovation activities, the center and its partners develop practical knowledge about the underlying economic and social conditions affecting rural communities, identify critical issues and test promising strategies for improving the rural economy and quality of life. All of this informs the center's policy recommendations and advocacy at the state and federal levels.

The center carries out its research and innovation function in three ways:

- 1) *Large scale initiatives to address issues of critical importance to rural North Carolina or economic development strategies that hold promise for widespread replication.* The center's North Carolina Small Towns Economic Prosperity (NC STEP) program is a prime example of a major initiative that is growing into a highly successful program. NC STEP supports economic recovery and revitalization in small towns using a comprehensive model of capacity building, technical assistance and grantmaking. New towns are admitted to the program on a competitive basis every other year. Sixty-seven communities have participated to date. (For more details, see page 18.)
- 2) *In-depth research to address major challenges and economic opportunities in rural communities and to develop practical strategies for implementation at the state or local level.* The Rural Center has launched significant research initiatives in FY12 focusing on development of the commercial seafood market, the potential for revitalizing the manufacturing sector in rural North Carolina and professional assessments of underutilized business properties. (For more details, see page 20.)
- 3) *An economic innovation program to provide grants and strategic investments in projects that show strong potential for innovation and that support business activity, job creation and income growth at the local and regional level.* Examples of projects funded in FY12 are a renewable wind energy project in Chowan County, a natural products manufacturing project in Henderson County and a project to support development of the niche meat markets statewide. (For more details, see page 21.)

The Rural Center Board of Directors makes all funding decisions. Project results are evaluated to determine strategy effectiveness.

The effectiveness and efficiency of the Research and Innovation Office are enhanced through partnerships with public agencies at all levels of government and with the private sector. These partnerships result in joint planning for project initiation, financial contributions to match center resources, participation in project implementation or oversight, and assistance in developing policy responses and advocating for policy changes or modifications.

N.C. SMALL TOWNS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY PROGRAM

NC STEP helps small communities overcome adversity by building on existing assets. It began as a three-year demonstration in 2006 targeting 33 economically distressed small towns. In June 2008, 12 sites were selected to be a part of a phase II demonstration. In 2010, NC STEP was adopted as an ongoing program of the center, and in June of that year, 11 towns were added as phase III sites. In June 2012, 11 more towns were brought into the program as phase IV.

FY12 Summary:

Recruitment and orientation of phase IV towns. Starting in December of 2011, STEP staff held regional information meetings for small towns interested in applying for the STEP program. The center received 37 proposals, from which it selected 11 towns in April 2012. Initial site visits with the new towns took place in May, followed by an intensive two-day orientation in June.

Strategic economic planning grants. Each phase IV site is eligible to receive a grant of up to \$25,000 to use in the strategic planning process. Sites may use funds for assessments, feasibility studies, coordination and other activities. The sites will be involved in the planning process through June 2013.

Project implementation grants. Phase I sites have now concluded their implementation work. Each phase II and phase III STEP town is eligible for up to \$100,000 in grants to implement priority projects developed during the strategic planning processes. Phase II towns have implementation projects under way and are projected to finish by the end of FY13. Phase III towns started on project implementation in FY12.

Coaching assistance. Community development coaches work with leadership teams within the NC STEP towns to identify critical needs and community assets, design potential economic development initiatives, rank projects by priority and seek out financial resources. Coaching for phase IV towns will take place throughout their strategic planning process. Coaching for phase III towns began in FY11 and was completed mid-year of FY12.

Priority consideration in other Rural Center grants programs. STEP towns receive priority consideration for other Rural Center grant programs. During FY12, STEP communities received 20 Rural Center grants, totaling \$2.2 million, over and above STEP funding.

Strengthening capacity and peer learning. Members of STEP leadership teams attend two workshops each year to share progress and receive additional information on strategies and tools. Regional peer-to-peer learning workshops were held in December 2011 in three locations across the state. They drew 94 attendees from 26 towns. In March 2012, the center hosted a daylong training workshop on feasibility assessments for redeveloping vacant commercial and industrial property. The workshop was led by eight members of

the Constructional Professional Network Institute, the service arm of a construction industry trade association. Thirty-three leaders from nine STEP communities attended the workshop.

Leadership training. Eighteen members of NC STEP leadership teams attended the 2011 Rural Economic Development Institute, a leadership development program of the Rural Center.

Assessment. Program sites submit monthly reports and financial reporting forms and materials. Rural Center staff members conduct periodic site visits. To date, implementation projects in phase I and II sites have resulted in the creation or expansion of 470 businesses and the creation of 2,266 jobs.

Phase IV towns (2012)

These 11 towns joining the STEP program in June 2012 and will undertake their strategic planning process during FY13.

Garland, Sampson County
Roseboro, Sampson County
Fremont, Wayne County
Spring Hope, Nash County
St. Pauls, Robeson County
Liberty, Randolph County
Mayodan, Rockingham County
Madison, Rockingham County
North Wilkesboro, Wilkes County
Rutherfordton, Rutherford County
Murphy, Cherokee County

Phase III towns (2010)

Phase III towns entered the program in June 2010 and began their project implementation during FY12.

Burnsville, Yancey County
Canton, Haywood County
Hertford, Perquimans County
Maysville, Jones County
Ramseur, Randolph County
Red Springs, Robeson County
Robbinsville, Graham County
Siler City, Chatham County
Star, Montgomery County
Warsaw, Duplin County
Windsor, Bertie County

Phase II towns (2008)

Towns in the phase II group received planning grants of \$30,000 and are eligible for up to \$100,000 in implementation grants. All are completing the implementation phase.

Bayboro, Pamlico County

Boonville, Yadkin County

Erwin, Harnett County

Forest City, Rutherford County

Franklin, Macon County

Lansing, Ashe County

Rowland, Robeson County

Tabor City, Columbus County

Weldon, Halifax County

Whitakers, Nash and Edgecombe counties

Old Fort (joining HandMade in America's High Country Cluster), McDowell County

Andrews (joining HandMade in America's Western Cluster), Cherokee County

Please see Appendix H for a summary of implementation plans.

DATA AND INFORMATION

The Rural Center regularly updates and refines its rural information database, which assists North Carolina leaders, rural citizens and the Rural Center in making sound decisions for effective policy and practices. One of the most widely used products is the web-based Rural Data Bank. The Data Bank includes more than 200 data points for each North Carolina county. Users may develop customized reports or view standard county, municipal and county business data profiles. The Data Bank is located at <http://www.ncruralcenter.org/rural-data-bank.html>. In late FY12 center staff began the process of redesigning the Data Bank to make data management more efficient and to improve data presentation and usefulness.

RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION

Research and demonstration funds support the development of research and/or policy initiatives that support economic development. Special emphasis is given to (1) projects that lead directly to job or business creation or to income growth, (2) projects that can be easily replicated in other rural communities and (3) projects that target low- and moderate-income citizens. The Rural Center board makes all award decisions.

FY12 Summary: During FY12, the Rural Center launched two major studies of economic issues pertinent to rural North Carolina, funded two projects that will provide valuable support for rural communities and continued to administer 13 active grants and research initiatives from previous years. The portfolio includes projects focused on commercial seafood markets, workforce training and development, small town

community and economic development, commercial property assessment and redevelopment, wealth- and asset-building strategies, and regional economic planning.

Specifically, in FY12 the center:

- Launched a commercial seafood market analysis to identify value-added economic opportunities for North Carolina's commercial fishing industry. Results will include recommendations regarding business assistance needs, processing infrastructure and supply chain logistics. A total of \$100,000 was allocated for the project.
- Committed up to \$100,000 to support research into the state of the manufacturing sector in rural North Carolina. This research will assess trends and place these trends in a broader national and global context; consider supply chain and cluster development opportunities; and analyze the opportunities for spurring job and business growth in rural manufacturing enterprises across the state. A public and private sector stakeholders group was convened to inform the research. The research will be carried out in FY13.
- Awarded a grant of \$185,000 to the Construction Professionals Network Institute, the service arm of a statewide construction industry membership group. During FY12, the organization collaborated with the Rural Center to conduct pro bono assessments of vacant and underutilized business properties in two small towns. This grant will allow CPNI to expand the effort to eight to 10 selected towns over the next year. The funded project features a collaboration with UNC School of Government's Development Finance Initiative, which will work with communities receiving property assessments to identify and obtain private sector financing and implement redevelopment projects.
- Provided \$90,000 to develop a training series as part of the center's New Generation Initiative. Under the initiative, the New Generation Communities program will conduct workshops to help community leaders better engage youth and young adults in community and economic development activities. R&D funds will be used to research strategies in youth engagement, develop training materials and deliver the training.

ECONOMIC INNOVATION GRANTS

Economic innovation grants spur business activity, job creation, income growth and public/private investment in North Carolina's rural communities. Projects must show that private sector jobs will be created and/or business activity increased within 24 months of the grant award.

Eligible recipients are units of local government, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions located within North Carolina's 85 rural counties or within the most

economically distressed counties (Tier 1) as designated by the N.C. Department of Commerce. Statewide and regional organizations and agencies serving such regions and communities also are eligible to apply.

FY12 Summary: Grants were awarded in three priority funding areas: rural manufacturing innovation, growth of the green economy and community-based economic innovation. Grants were awarded 1) for projects that develop new, creative practices and strategies to be tested in communities for the first time and 2) for strategic investments in larger-scale projects that take tested innovative solutions to scale across rural North Carolina in ways that bring widespread impact.

One competitive round of economic innovation grant funding was available in FY12, with eight projects receiving a total of \$748,000. An additional \$57,000 was awarded to a project that received a grant in the February 2011 cycle of program funding. The center also awarded two grants totaling \$425,000 through a strategic investments category for projects with strong economic impact potential in communities across the state.

The strategic investments projects were developed to address critical gaps in rural North Carolina's meat processing, packaging and distribution supply chain. One project, through North Carolina State University and its NC Choices team, will provide targeted assistance to a number of existing processors by evaluating financial performance, exploring new technology use, offering new services and upgrading equipment to create jobs, increase profitability and establish greater processing capacity. Another project, working with the N.C. Agricultural Foundation, will focus on developing meat producer and retail outlet networks for specialty beef and pork products. The work is expected to facilitate over \$3 million in additional revenues to livestock producers over the project period. Deliverables include a training manual with resources, strategies and tools to facilitate replication of this work in other rural communities.

Altogether, the 11 economic innovation grants are expected to serve 48 businesses and create 231 jobs.

During FY12, Rural Center staff also continued to manage all aspects of reporting, payment and evaluation of results for 59 active grants issued in prior years. Quarterly progress reports were solicited and financial requests reviewed and processed accordingly. The center continued to provide technical assistance to these grantees.

Economic Innovation Grants— FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Buncombe	Mountain BizCapital, Inc. dba Mountain BizWorks	Empowering Latinos Through Business and Credit Building	\$88,000	\$115,475	10	17
Chowan	Albemarle Resource Conservation & Development Council (ARCD)	Renewable Wind Energy Economic Solutions Project	\$57,000		3	8
Cleveland	Destination Cleveland County, Inc.	Earl Scruggs Center: Music & Stories from the American South	\$100,000	\$4,454,117		4
Henderson	AdvantageWest North Carolina	Enhancing WNC's Capacity to Grow and Attract Natural Products Manufacturers	\$100,000	\$27,525	6	17
Montgomery	Central Park NC	Building A Glass Arts Community	\$100,000	\$50,900	2	10
Orange	Regional Technology Strategies, Inc.	Art & Manufacturing - Siler City	\$100,000	\$10,000	2	15
Pasquotank	College of the Albemarle	Regional Aviation and Technical Training Center	\$100,000	\$7,608,080		25
Scotland	Scotland County Economic Development Corporation	Small Business Innovation Center	\$85,000	\$1,000,000	5	60
Wake	NC State University	People-First Tourism	\$75,000	\$10,200	15	15
Wake	NC State University	Supporting Sustainable Rural Economic Development through the Advancement of NC's Niche Meat Industry	\$325,000	\$16,250	4	20
Wake	North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc.	Support for Scaling and Evaluating the Farmhand Foods Business Model for Expanding Markets and Supply of NC-Produced Niche Meats	\$100,000	\$10,000	1	40

Total FY12 Economic Innovation \$1,230,000 \$13,302,547 48 231

Please see Appendix I for project descriptions.

BUILDING REUSE AND RESTORATION GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Statement: The Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program is designed to spur economic activity and job creation by assisting in the reuse and restoration of vacant buildings. The program originated in 2004 when the General Assembly created the Economic Infrastructure Fund. Grants are targeted for communities severely affected by the loss of businesses and jobs caused by major economic transitions, with a priority for towns with populations of fewer than 5,000. The program now has opportunities available to assist 1) the reuse of vacant properties, 2) health care related construction and 3) expansion of existing manufacturing-type businesses.

For vacant building reuse projects, the amount for any particular grant depends on the location of the building, how many jobs will be created, the cost of the renovation project and the type of business involved. All grants must be matched on at least a one-to-one ratio. Most categories require that at least one job to be created for each \$8,000 in grant funding. Businesses with certain NAICS/SIC codes may be eligible for \$12,000 for each job being created. The maximum award is \$480,000 for projects in Tier 1 and 2 counties and \$240,000 in Tier 3 counties.

The Rural Hope program (or the Rural Health Care Initiative) was launched in March 2009 to help local governments capitalize on potential new jobs in the health care industry. The program provides up to \$8,000 per job created in a new or renovated health care facility. The maximum grant amount for any one project is \$480,000 in a Tier 1 or 2 county and \$240,000 in Tier 3.

In 2011, the Rural Jobs Fund appropriation enabled grants that encourage manufacturing-type companies to expand or renovate space and create jobs in their existing facilities. This occupied buildings category offers up to \$5,000 for each new job created or one-half of the renovation cost, whichever is less. The maximum grant award is \$500,000.

Grants are awarded to local governments, which work with the businesses being served. All building reuse programs require that a performance agreement promising to create the specified number of jobs be executed between the business creating the jobs and the local government applying for the grant. This contract contains a “claw-back” provision allowing the Rural Center to recapture any funds expended without correlating job creation. To be eligible, a project must be ready to begin renovation with a commitment in hand for use of the building and must lead to job creation in a new or expanding business.

Since 2004, all building reuse programs have funded 371 projects totaling \$52.3 million. These projects have assisted 448 businesses, created 7,852 jobs and leveraged \$729 million in other investments.

FY12 Summary: Building reuse vacant and occupied buildings programs awarded 76 grants totaling \$14 million. They included the renovation of vacant industrial buildings for use by a battery manufacturer in Valdese, a wood pellet manufacturer in Ahoskie and a food processing company in Troy. All together, the grants leveraged \$156.4 million in other investments, assisted 84 businesses and created 1,721 full-time jobs. Fifty-two of the funded projects are located in Tier 1 counties.

Under Rural Hope, the center funded 10 grants totaling \$848,000. The projects will create 106 jobs and leverage \$36 million in other investments. The funded projects include assistance to providers of primary care, psychiatric and mental health, services for the aging, urgent care, dental care and hospital care. Three of the funded projects are located in Tier 1 counties. The Rural Center also partnered with the Golden LEAF Foundation, Appalachian Regional Commission and Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust to increase available grant funding for health care facilities under the Rural Hope umbrella. The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust awarded a \$960,000 grant to the Rural Center. Using those funds, the center awarded nine sub-grants to organizations providing health care services to low-income and underserved populations in Tier 1 counties. The other two agencies funded 20 additional projects.

Throughout FY12, Rural Center staff conducted outreach through nine training sessions and workshops targeting rural chambers of commerce, economic development commissions, local governments, nonprofit entities and other potential partners in building reuse projects. On an ongoing basis, center staff provides grant review and selection, contract development, site visits and technical assistance to prospective applicants and grantees.

Building Reuse and Restoration, Vacant Building Grants – FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Anson	Town of Wadesboro	Gardenscape Building Re-Use Project	\$96,000	\$101,000	1	12
Burke	City of Morganton	Project Bill	\$480,000	\$11,464,000	1	40
Burke	City of Morganton	Skelly, Inc. / RSL Plant 1 Building Reuse Project	\$72,000	\$346,768	1	6
Burke	Rutherford College	Michelle's Bakery	\$132,000	\$132,000	1	11
Caldwell	Caldwell County	Carolina Prime Pet, Inc.	\$480,000	\$3,105,000	1	40
Caldwell	City of Lenoir	Sweet T's Main Economic Development Project	\$15,000	\$70,000	1	6
Caldwell	City of Lenoir	Randall Miller Company Economic Development Company Project	\$120,000	\$158,425	1	10
Caldwell	Town of Granite Falls	Lubrimetal Corporation Economic Development Project	\$132,000	\$277,000	1	11
Chatham	Town of Pittsboro	Green Renovation of the Veologica Building for Alpha Install	\$128,000	\$965,000	1	16
Chatham	Town of Siler City	Lazar Expansion Project	\$182,125	\$217,875	1	37
Chowan	Town of Edenton	Hometown Sears Store	\$32,000	\$502,741	1	4
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Baldor Expansion Building Reuse Project (former Copeland Building)	\$780,000	\$3,920,300	1	65
Columbus	Columbus County	Project Ship 2 (Wilmington Shipping Company)	\$48,000	\$403,208	1	4
Columbus	Columbus County	Project Car Seat	\$120,280	\$120,280	1	15
Dare	Dare County	Gunboat Building Renovation Project	\$249,152	\$1,502,352	1	31
Davie	Davie County	Ashley Furniture Industries	\$480,000	\$41,020,000	1	40

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Davie	Town of Mocksville	Carolina Precision Plastics, LLC / Project Resilance	\$480,000	\$3,970,985	1	40
Franklin	Town of Franklinton	Johnny's on Main	\$40,000	\$43,065	1	5
Halifax	Town of Scotland Neck	Braxton Repair Shop Renovation	\$24,000	\$30,905	1	3
Halifax	Town of Weldon	Weldon Restaurant Project	\$64,000	\$336,000	1	8
Halifax	Town of Weldon	Southwest Fiberglass Pool Project	\$32,350	\$32,350	1	3
Harnett	City of Dunn	The John A McKay House	\$32,000	\$34,000	1	4
Haywood	Haywood County	Project Staples	\$175,000	\$11,549,285	1	35
Haywood	Town of Waynesville	The Strand Theater Renovations	\$50,000	\$375,020	1	5
Henderson	Henderson County	Project Blue/Legacy Paddlesports	\$240,000	\$498,436	1	30
Hertford	Hertford County	Enviva Pellets Ahoskie, LLC (Wood Pellet Manufacturer)	\$141,049	\$141,049	1	25
Hertford	Hertford County	Alfiniti Logistics HVAC and Automotive Industries	\$265,100	\$4,663,255	1	23
Hertford	Town of Ahoskie	Abrams BBQ of Ahoskie	\$160,000	\$541,400	1	20
Iredell	City of Statesville	Abundant Manufacturing Building Restoration Project	\$176,000	\$514,235	1	22
Johnston	Town of Smithfield	Paws N Claws - Old Pontiac Building	\$64,000	\$521,500	1	8
Jones	Town of Maysville	Maysville Holdings / Jones Co. Farmers & Flea Market	\$24,000	\$326,823	3	3
Lee	Lee County	WST Industries Expansion Building Renovation Project	\$85,689	\$1,054,473	1	12
Martin	Martin County	Marco Company Building Reuse	\$426,500	\$446,500	1	55
McDowell	McDowell County	Project Tilson	\$240,000	\$240,000	1	20
McDowell	McDowell County	Project Summit / SBFI-North America Manufacturing	\$157,700	\$707,700	1	14
Mitchell	Mitchell County	BRP US Expansion	\$250,000	\$360,000	1	52
Montgomery	Town of Troy	Project Blue Thunder (Aseptia, Inc.)	\$480,000	\$4,660,800	1	40
Moore	Town of Aberdeen	Royal Threads Expansion Project	\$48,000	\$289,409	1	6
Pender	Pender County	Thermic Green Building Renovation Project	\$480,000	\$4,033,704	1	40
Randolph	Randolph County	FPE NC, LLC (Plastic Injection Molding Company)	\$364,800	\$403,200	1	32
Robeson	Robeson County	James C. McGirt Enterprise / Forest Acres Business Complex	\$80,000	\$250,400	2	10
Robeson	Robeson County	Wee Farm and Family Learning Center	\$64,000	\$160,100	1	8
Rockingham	City of Reidsville	The Celtic Fringe Restaurant Renovation Project	\$23,363	\$46,745	1	5
Rockingham	Rockingham County	Piedmont Distillers	\$50,000	\$128,882	1	5

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Wells Jenkins Wells Expansion Project	\$96,000	\$289,400	1	8
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Isothermal Textiles Services Building Improvement Project	\$256,000	\$327,000	1	22
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Ameridial Building Expansion Project	\$310,000	\$467,750	1	62
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Henry Molded Products, Inc.	\$288,000	\$758,078	1	24
Rutherford	Town of Spindale	Diamondback Tactical Building Renovations	\$480,000	\$940,867	1	40
Sampson	Town of Roseboro	The Caboose Sports Bar	\$48,000	\$75,000	1	6
Surry	City of Mount Airy	Project Diversity (Advanced Electronic Services, Inc.)	\$359,250	\$759,250	1	30
Surry	Town of Pilot Mountain	Project RIG (Elastrix, LLC)	\$432,000	\$1,369,818	1	41
Swain	Swain County	Tuckaseegee Mills Renovation	\$184,000	\$665,300	3	23
Union	City of Monroe	Project STARR	\$184,000	\$155,800	1	23
Union	Town of Indian Trail	Project Roll	\$128,000	\$383,284	1	16
Vance	Vance County	Appliance & Home Care Center	\$64,000	\$66,900	1	8
Vance	Vance County	Project Emergency	\$64,000	\$945,679	2	8
Washington	Town of Creswell	Main Street Eatery	\$40,000	\$202,500	1	5
Watauga	Watauga County	Aaron's Sales and Lease	\$44,843	\$1,107,077	1	8
Wilkes	Town of North Wilkesboro	PowerSport Grafx Facility	\$72,000	\$81,000	1	6
Wilkes	Wilkes County	Manzella Worldwide	\$135,171	\$135,170	1	12
Wilson	City of Wilson	Expanding Economic Opportunities	\$56,000	\$124,000	3	7
Yadkin	Town of Jonesville	Parrish Tire	\$93,292	\$133,293	1	12
Total FY12 Building Reuse (Vacant Buildings)			\$11,598,664	\$109,653,335	71	1,242

Please see Appendix J for project descriptions.

Building Reuse, Rural Jobs Fund/Occupied Building Grants – FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Beaufort	City of Washington	Project Renovate (Weir Valves & Controls USA)	\$410,000	\$587,977	1	82
Burke	City of Morganton	Project Zeke	\$500,000	\$7,399,338	1	100
Burke	Town of Valdese	Project Cathode	\$270,000	\$11,700,000	1	54
Caldwell	Caldwell County	Avery Dennison Economic Development Project	\$53,796	\$1,353,796	1	15
Caldwell	City of Lenoir	RollEase Lenoir Expansion	\$30,000	\$30,000	1	6
Chowan	Town of Edenton	Project Colony	\$150,000	\$1,032,500	1	30
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Kendrion FAS Controls	\$285,000	\$7,215,000	1	57
Cleveland	Cleveland County	B&W Fiber Glass Expansion Project	\$50,000	\$1,548,416	1	10
Columbus	Columbus County	Project Nice Blends	\$115,593	\$115,593	1	25
Duplin	Town of Faison	Cottle Strawberry Nursery Upgrade and Renovation	\$200,000	\$536,946	1	40
Granville	Granville County	Shalag Phase II Building Expansion	\$125,000	\$13,779,486	1	25
Hertford	Hertford County	Metal Tech	\$100,000	\$1,081,043	1	20
Wilkes	Town of Wilkesboro	Integrity Design and Displays	\$75,000	\$384,500	1	15
Total FY12 Building Reuse (Rural Jobs/Occupied Buildings)			\$2,364,389	\$46,764,595	13	479

Please see Appendix K for project descriptions.

Rural Hope (Health Care Initiative) Grants — FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses Served	Jobs Created
Bladen	Town of Bladenboro	Project Bladen Healthcare	\$160,000	\$960,000	1	20
Carteret	Town of Newport	Crystal Coast Hospice House	\$128,000	\$3,619,503	1	16
Chowan	Town of Edenton	Eye Care of Edenton	\$16,000	\$586,458	1	2
Duplin	Duplin County	Duplin General Hospital Emergency Area Expansion	\$96,000	\$1,403,225	1	12
Granville	Granville County	Drake Dentistry General Practice Dental Office New Construction	\$56,000	\$983,494	1	7
Granville	Granville County	Granville Medical Center Emergency Department Expansion	\$88,000	\$20,036,575	1	11
Greene	Town of Hookerton	Hookerton Family Dentist Office	\$48,000	\$142,971	1	6
Harnett	City of Dunn	Harnett Health Wound Care Center	\$80,000	\$544,090	1	10
Hertford	Hertford County	Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center-Ahoskie Comprehensive Care Site	\$120,000	\$6,227,995	2	15
Johnston	Johnston County	Emergency Services Expansion and Renovation Project	\$56,000	\$1,446,800	1	7
Total FY12 Rural Healthcare Initiative			\$848,000	\$35,951,111	11	106

Please see Appendix L for project descriptions.

BUSINESS FINANCE PROGRAMS

Program Statement: A primary focus of the Business Development Office is to provide financing to new and growing businesses in rural counties. These financing programs increase access to capital for women, minorities and low-wealth entrepreneurs and provide flexible capital to companies that cannot access traditional bank financing or venture capital. The programs encourage the development and expansion of viable enterprises that create wealth for families and communities as well as provide living wage job opportunities.

The center currently operates the North Carolina Microenterprise Loan Program and the N.C. Small Business Credit Initiative. The Microenterprise Program was capitalized after its creation in 1989 by state appropriations and other sources. It receives state funding for ongoing operations. It is described in more detail below.

The N.C. Small Business Credit Initiative resulted from the federal Small Business Jobs Act of 2010. Governor Perdue designated the Rural Center to administer \$46.1 million that was the state's share of funding under the act. With this funding the center has created three programs to increase access to capital for small businesses statewide. Two of the programs encourage lending by banks and other traditional sources by reducing risk: the Capital Access Program creates a pooled loan loss reserve fund while the Loan Participation Program purchases 20 percent of qualifying loans. Through the N.C. Fund of Funds, the initiative also invests in venture capital and angel funds, which in turn make equity investments in North Carolina businesses.

The Rural Center previously operated the Rural Venture Fund. The fund offered flexible financing options for qualified businesses in economically distressed rural counties of North Carolina with an emphasis on Tier 1 counties. It was capitalized at \$6.8 million with investments from the N.C. General Assembly, Golden LEAF and the Rural Center. Between 2007 and 2011, the fund made 12 investments totaling \$3.5 million in rural companies. The center continues to monitor these investments but discontinued making further direct investments in companies and will instead concentrate efforts on building the N.C. Fund of Funds Program. The remaining Rural Venture Fund capital will be invested in the programs of the Small Business Credit Initiative.

NORTH CAROLINA MICROENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAM

The North Carolina Microenterprise Loan Program, launched in 1989, helps rural people become self-sufficient by supporting opportunities for self-employment and small business growth. The program provides loans up to \$25,000 in combination with business planning and technical assistance for the start-up or expansion of small businesses by individuals who have sound ideas but may not qualify for traditional bank financing.

The program serves all 85 rural counties. Special emphasis is given to serving low-income, female and minority applicants.

Loan decisions are based on credit, income, collateral and a solid business plan. Entrepreneurs may submit applications directly to the Rural Center, or they may apply through one of 79 microenterprise intake professionals in rural counties across the state. Intake professionals are affiliated with the small business centers of community colleges, community development corporations and other economic development organizations. They provide program information and small business technical assistance and close approved loans.

Technical assistance to entrepreneurs and prospective entrepreneurs is an important element of the program's work. In addition to offering one-on-one assistance for borrowers, the Rural Center conducts financial literacy workshops. The workshops explain how individuals can improve credit worthiness, with an emphasis on increasing chances for business loan approvals.

FY12 Summary: During FY12, the program made 40 loans totaling \$506,360. The average loan size was approximately \$12,500. Of the loans made, 50 percent went to women, 40 percent to minorities, 15 percent to households with low incomes and 18 percent to veterans. A variety of retail stores received loans during FY12. They included groceries, an ice cream shop, a jewelry store, a pet/fish store and a furniture store. Other businesses receiving loans included a chiropractor, pre-school, jam & pickle manufacturer, medical supply sales company, four trucking companies, two restaurants, a microbrewery, a hair salon and an industrial maintenance service firm.

Staff also conducted 49 financial literacy workshops attended by 1,473 participants. Re-entry workshops for ex-offenders attract the greatest attendance, with an average of 20 to 25 individuals per session. Re-entry workshops help those previously incarcerated to consider self-employment as a job creation strategy.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE FUND

The Rural Center, in partnership with Golden LEAF and Self-Help, created a new small business loan program that will make up to \$27.5 million available for small businesses in North Carolina. The fund is a result of the General Assembly's appropriation of \$500,000 to the Rural Center in FY09 to "be used to support existing small businesses." Golden LEAF added \$5 million. This \$5.5 million capitalized a loan loss reserve pool (the Small Business Assistance Fund) to make more money available to businesses in a tight credit market. The loans may be used for facilities, equipment or working capital. Self-Help administers the loan fund. In FY10, the General Assembly appropriated an additional \$1 million to the center to continue the Small Business Assistance Fund and leverage an additional \$5 million in loans to small businesses.

FY12 Summary: The Small Business Assistance Fund was officially launched November 1, 2009. By June 30, 2012, Self-Help had closed on 100 loans backed by the state appropriations. The loans totaled \$3,317,307 and will create or retain 544 jobs in 41

counties. These numbers exclude loans related to Golden LEAF's commitment of funds. Industry representation within the portfolio includes: agriculture/aquaculture, child care, construction trades, health care, manufacturing, retail (including a restaurant and grocery store) and services (including auto parts, auto repair and service, landscaping, and professional services such as accounting). For every \$1 invested in the loan loss reserve pool by the Rural Center, Self-Help pledges to lend \$5 to a small business. As of June 30, 2012, \$836,538 in Rural Center funds had been leveraged.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Statement: The Rural Center has administered the Community Economic Development Grants Program since 1988. The program is designed to help new and emerging community development corporations working in low-income and minority communities build their capacity by providing grants for operations and staff support.

CDCs are community-based organizations that act as catalysts for the revitalization of their communities and local economies. In many cases, these organizations succeed where both government and the private sector have failed, by creating neighborhood partnerships to address community needs and by undertaking projects that create opportunities for home ownership, small business development and human resource improvements.

Funds administered by the Rural Center have helped CDCs spur investments from the federal government, state government, banks, foundations, corporations and other organizations. CDCs have grown from around a dozen in 1988 to as many as 80 across the state today. Although these organizations are locally based and controlled, they are a part of a national network that includes an estimated 3,000 organizations nationwide.

As part of its grant administration, the Rural Center provides technical assistance tailored to the needs of each organization. To support this work, it obtains from each grantee a work plan outlining organizational activities to be accomplished during the upcoming 12 months, along with financial reports and accounting policies. The need for technical assistance has become more acute as the CDCs have matured and taken on larger-scale projects. Another current challenge is finding financing for small business development, land acquisition, training, predevelopment and related development needs.

Reductions in state appropriations for FY11 and FY12, a result of budget shortfalls, created an especially great challenge for CDCs. Even small reductions represent a significant portion of the typical CDC annual budget. While center support for many of these organizations is critical to their survival, especially in the early stages of organizational development, the Rural Center stresses the continuous need for each to develop a plan to diversify funding resources. For the Rural Center, one of the most important evaluation indicators is the grantee's ability to leverage additional resources.

FY12 Summary: The center received 25 grant applications representing \$1.2 million in requests. Twenty organizations were funded, with grants totaling \$936,000. All 20 had received prior support from the center. Collectively the CDCs prevented 658 home foreclosures through foreclosure mitigations; provided 68 financial literacy workshops; served 1,837 participants through housing counseling; assisted 528 businesses with small business technical assistance; completed 345 weatherization projects; hosted job-training workshops that reached 830 participants; created over 400 jobs; and served more than 27,000 citizens.

Community Economic Development Grants – FY12

County	Grantee	Amount Requested*	Amount Granted
Brunswick	Countywide Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$48,000
Buncombe	Eagle/Market Streets Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$51,000
Burke	Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$46,500
Cherokee	One Dozen Who Care Inc.	\$65,000	\$51,000
Columbus	Columbus County DREAM Center	\$65,000	\$51,000
Cumberland	Cumberland Regional Improvement Corp.	\$38,800	\$50,500
Forsyth	Goler-Depot Street Renaissance Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$51,000
Greene	Rosenwald Center for Cultural Enrichment	\$65,000	\$38,000
Guilford	Triad Economic Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$43,000
Halifax	Regeneration Development Group	\$35,000	\$35,000
Hoke	Blue Springs-Hoke County Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$56,000
Pamlico	Bayboro Development Center	\$66,471	\$57,000
Pasquotank, Camden, Perquimans, Gates, Currituck, Dare, Chowan	River City Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$58,000
Rutherford	Community Empowerment Project CDC	\$50,000	\$33,000
Sampson	Sampson County Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$43,000
Tyrrell, Hyde, Chowan, Washington	Tyrrell County Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$58,000
Wake, Franklin	Restoration Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$47,000
Warren	Warren Family Institute	\$65,000	\$38,000
Washington	New Life Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$43,000
Wilkes	Appalachian Housing Initiative Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$38,000
Total FY12 Community Economic Development		\$1,200,271	\$936,000

Please see Appendix M for descriptions of CDC programs.

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENT CONSORTIUM

Program Statement: The Agricultural Advancement Consortium promotes the benefits of a strong farm sector and considers new ways to increase farm profitability. A key function of the consortium has been to fund projects and studies that lead to new agribusiness opportunities. It also monitors and responds to legislative, regulatory, programmatic and market changes that affect the profitability of farming. Its members include North Carolina's foremost leadership in agriculture, business and public policy. The N.C. General Assembly established the consortium in 2000 in response to a recommendation of the Rural Prosperity Task Force. The consortium, which meets quarterly, is staffed and housed by the Rural Center.

FY12 Summary:

North Carolina Agriculture 2020 Initiative. In FY12, the consortium laid the groundwork for the North Carolina Agriculture 2020 Initiative, which will identify challenges and opportunities facing agriculture and make recommendations for sustaining the industry's future. Analysis will address water, energy, grain and livestock enhancement, transportation and logistics, food safety and other issues.

Food Processing. The consortium continued to support the establishment and expansion of food processing facilities in the state. Working with the N.C. Department of Commerce and the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the consortium helped identify financial support for food processors and assisted companies in navigating government requirements and regulations.

Grant Awards. The consortium awards grants to identify and document critical needs in agriculture and to test new and alternative processes and programs that address those needs. In FY12, it awarded three grants totaling \$59,093. Projects receiving grants seek to increase college-going rates among rural high school students and to assist farmers in lowering the risks of potential food contamination on the farm. Another documented the opportunities and challenges of young farmers and ranchers.

Agricultural Advancement Consortium Grants—FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Grant
Wake	North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc.	Young Farmers and Ranchers Outreach Initiative	\$14,093
Wake	North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc.	'ASPIRE' - ACT Supplemental Preparation in Rural Education	\$40,000
Wake	North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Commissioner's Food Safety Forum	\$5,000

Total FY12 Agricultural Advancement Consortium \$59,093.00

Please refer to Appendix N for project descriptions.

INSTITUTE FOR RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Program Statement: The Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship stimulates and supports the development of micro, small and medium-size enterprises in North Carolina's 85 rural counties. Its goals include:

- Support self-employment as an important source of jobs and income in rural North Carolina
- Develop leadership in rural communities that views entrepreneurship as economic development

The institute's work on self-employment includes two statewide rural programs: the Growing America through Entrepreneurship (GATE) program for dislocated workers and the New Generation Ventures program for young adults. The institute's work on leadership development includes convening a statewide alliance of business service providers and sponsoring entrepreneurship development seminars for community leaders.

Since its inception in 2003, the institute has leveraged more than \$5 million in grant funding beyond its state appropriation. That amount includes two national demonstrations: the Rural Entrepreneurship Development System project funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (2005-08) and the GATE project funded initially by the U.S. Department of Labor (2009-2011). The institute also has secured smaller grants from federal agencies and a bank foundation.

SELF-EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

The institute oversees two promising self-employment programs for rural workers in service to its goal to support self-employment as an important source of jobs and income in rural North Carolina.

FY12 Summary:

- ❑ Project GATE, or Growing America through Entrepreneurship, helps laid-off workers start their own businesses. It provides access to free, one-on-one business counseling and scholarships for business-related training. Its statewide team includes the N.C. Department of Commerce, N.C. Community College System, JobLink Career Centers and employment security offices. The GATE program relies heavily on a partnership between the Rural Center and the N.C. Community Colleges' Small Business Center Network. The Rural Center manages the daily project operations and staffs a virtual site that works in tandem with several community college-based sites to deliver services to dislocated workers interested in entrepreneurship. Workers eligible for Workforce Investment Act benefits can apply to GATE and receive free assessment, training and coaching in starting a business to employ themselves and perhaps others. GATE is a strong demonstration in North Carolina, with more than 1,200 scholarships awarded in 78 counties. GATE clients have started 150 businesses and created 400 jobs since the program launched in April 2009.

- ❑ New Generation Ventures is the entrepreneurship program of the Rural Center's three-year New Generation Initiative. Ventures helps young adults aged 18 to 30 start rural businesses by providing training scholarships, case management, networking and access to capital. With two counselors based in Raleigh serving the entire state, the New Generation Ventures program leverages its partnership with the N.C. Community Colleges' Small Business Center Network, which offers local counseling and training to Ventures clients. Between its launch in February 2012 and June 30, 2012, Ventures had enrolled 70 young adult clients from 30 counties. By December 2014, the program is projected to serve over 500 clients, helping them start 100 businesses and create 150 jobs.

RURAL EDS II DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

The state-funded Rural Entrepreneurship Development System II project supported regional entrepreneurship development in rural North Carolina and built on lessons from the earlier demonstration funded by the Kellogg Foundation. The goals were to: 1) broaden the pipeline of entrepreneurial talent of all ages and 2) create seamless systems for delivering entrepreneurship education, coaching, technical assistance, financing, networking and community support to rural entrepreneurs. The projects formally concluded in FY12. Announced in June 2008, the two Rural EDS II regions were:

- 1) **Southeast Entrepreneurial Alliance**, covering Bladen, Columbus, Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties. The coordinator was based at UNC-Pembroke.
- 2) **Northeast Entrepreneurial Team**, covering Pasquotank, Perquimans, Camden, Chowan and Gates counties. The coordinator was based at River City Community Development Corp.

FY12 Summary:

- ❑ The regional teams for the northeast and southeast regions engaged in a variety of entrepreneurship development activities and initiatives. The coordinators for each region participated in entrepreneurship meetings and business expos of their own initiative and with other partners, including chambers of commerce, universities, youth alliances and faith-based groups. They incorporated an entrepreneurship focus into broader economic development and education issues. They also have established collaborative relationships with community development corporations and American Indian organizations.
- ❑ The two coordinators each fielded dozens of inquiries from aspiring entrepreneurs and directed them to state-funded resources or invited them to local events relevant to their interests, such as the green economy or local food systems.
- ❑ Both coordinators were active in encouraging more entrepreneurship education opportunities in the middle and high schools of their local systems, urging teachers and community development partners to attend NC REAL and similar training institutes and participating in youth entrepreneurship summer camps. The

Southeast Entrepreneurial Alliance held a well-attended Youth Entrepreneurship Summit in April 2012.

- ❑ Center staff helped strengthen the connections of both coordinators to the economic and workforce development agencies in their regions.
- ❑ Both regions benefited from the active engagement of their regional universities, UNC-Pembroke and Elizabeth City State University. UNC-Pembroke continues to support the coordinator and the Southeastern Entrepreneurial Alliance. Elizabeth City State University is developing an entrepreneurship center in collaboration with the business service providers in the northeast region.

OTHER INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTS

As with all of its initiatives, the other work of the Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship involves active collaborations with small business and economic development partners.

FY12 Summary: In building leadership support of entrepreneurship, the institute:

- ❑ Conducted two Energizing Entrepreneurship Express one-day training seminars to help rural leaders specify short-term community-based action plans for supporting their rural entrepreneurs. The sessions in Pinehurst and Waynesville drew a total of 88 participants from 12 local teams.
- ❑ Continued to coordinate the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Alliance of 80 organizations that support entrepreneurs: state and federal agencies, universities, state associations, entrepreneurial nonprofits and private capital providers. They have met quarterly in the Triangle since fall 2003 to collaborate on behalf of North Carolina entrepreneurs. Meeting hosts in FY12 were the N.C. Bar Association (August 2011), the N.C. Farm Bureau Federation (December 2011), the Small Business Center at Wake Technical Community College (March 2012) and the state Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (June 2012).
- ❑ Continued to participate in planning the N.C. Entrepreneurship Summit, which the institute initiated in 2006 as part of its Kellogg-funded project. The summit has repeated in 2007 (Raleigh), 2008 (Greensboro), 2010 (Wilmington) and 2011 (Durham). The 2012 summit is scheduled for Asheville on September 24-25. The annual summit is now staffed by the Small Business and Technology Development Center and many volunteers led by the Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship.
- ❑ Continued to participate in the Hop on the Bus! statewide high school business plan competition, initiated in 2006. Over a thousand students from dozens of North Carolina counties have participated. It is now coordinated by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and NC REAL and offered twice per year.
- ❑ Continued to participate in the N.C. Department of Commerce's referral system for Business Link North Carolina. Institute staff meets periodically with BLNC staff for detailed program updates.
- ❑ Continued to support and partner with regional service provider networks in executing high-quality entrepreneurship seminars for community leaders. One example is the Fort Bragg Regional Alliance, which co-hosted a January 2012 seminar in Dunn featuring three local entrepreneurs under 30.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Program Statement: The Workforce Development Office develops and oversees grant initiatives, engages in advocacy related to training and other workforce activities, and promotes collaborative workforce development strategies.

FY12 Summary: Major activities in FY12 included the oversight of a round of grants for local communities responding to the needs of the unemployed, the launch of a grant initiative responding to the needs of young adults, policy advocacy and promotion of collaborative workforce development strategies.

Rural Community Mobilization Project. The project, launched in 2009, helps connect laid-off and underemployed workers to full-time jobs. The grants require community organizations -- such as workforce training programs and economic development agencies -- to collaborate on workforce development strategies. The FY12 grants also required a commitment by at least three area employers to consider hiring workers who completed the mobilization project.

The center awarded 12 community mobilization grants totaling \$725,000 in November 2011. The yearlong projects began Jan. 1. Many of the grantees are located in high-unemployment rural counties. They include community colleges, community-based organizations and an economic development organization. These organizations provide such services as:

- Career assessment and guidance
- Job and skills training in such areas as advanced manufacturing and health care
- Employability training
- Support for participants to earn credentials demanded by employers
- Supportive services such as child care or transportation for those in training or looking for jobs
- Job placement assistance

Halfway through their grant year, the 12 grantees reported:

- 764 rural North Carolinians served, including 207 dislocated workers
- 278 individuals participated in education or job-related training
- 255 participants earned a credential
- 639 participants were assisted with case management, coaching, assessment and/or career guidance
- 154 participants received supportive services (transportation or child care assistance) or a stipend
- 189 participants obtained a new job with the help of the project
- 2 participants had started their own business

In addition to an allocation of the center's state appropriation, the Rural Community Mobilization Project has received funding from the Division of Workforce Solutions of the N.C. Department of Commerce and from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Rural Community Mobilization Grants - FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Job Placements
Anson	South Piedmont Community College	Anson-Union Workforce Development Project	\$75,000	\$39,396	36
Burke	Burke Partnership for Economic Development	RENEW - Re-Educating a New Employable Workforce	\$55,000	\$60,284	36
Chatham	Hispanic Liaison of Chatham County	Income Development Center	\$40,000	\$91,355	50
Cherokee	Tri-County Community College	Far Western Manufacturing Certification	\$55,000	\$15,282	55
Columbus	Southeastern Community College	Project JOBS	\$40,000	\$93,788	36
Halifax	Regeneration Development Group, Inc.	Allied Health Workforce Training and Job Creation Project	\$50,000	\$54,560	30
Lenoir	Lenoir Community College	TRIAGE	\$40,000	\$62,213	40
Person	Piedmont Community College	PCC's Workforce Certification Academy	\$70,000	\$50,997	53
Pitt	Pitt Community College	Meeting Industry Demand for Certified Logging Equipment Operators	\$50,000	\$40,000	25
Robeson	Center for Community Action, Inc.	Robeson County Career Pathways Project	\$70,000	\$130,000	40
Vance	Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Inc.	Training Assistance Partnership (TAP) - Phase II	\$70,000	\$21,453	36
Wilson	Opportunities Industrialization Center of Wilson, Inc.	OIC Jobs Now Plus	\$110,000	\$10,961	60
Total FY12 Community Mobilization			\$725,000	\$670,289	497

Please see Appendix O for project descriptions.

New Generation Careers. The Rural Community Mobilization Project served as a model for a second program developed as part of the center's New Generation Initiative, an effort to more fully involve rural young people in the economic and civic life of their communities. The New Generation Careers program assists the development of locally based strategies to train and place rural young people, ages 18 to 30, in high-demand career fields. It also focuses on building the talent pool in rural North Carolina communities to support businesses and economic development.

From a field of 37 prospects, the center awarded 14 grants June 20, 2012. One award was rescinded in the beginning of FY13 when the applicant informed the Rural Center that other funding needed to carry out the project could not be procured. The remaining 13 grants total a little over \$1 million. The 18-month project began August 1, 2012.

All grantees will offer career guidance, training and job placement assistance to young adults. Some will also offer work-based experiences such as internships and pre-apprenticeships. Training will prepare young people for careers in occupational fields ranging from manufacturing, welding and electric line maintenance to health care and culinary arts. The Rural Center expects its 13 grantees will serve at least 700 young adults. Grantees project they will place nearly 480 in jobs or apprenticeships.

New Generation Careers Grants - FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Job Placements
Brunswick	Brunswick Community College	New Generation Careers - Brunswick	\$100,000	\$15,000	40
Buncombe	Land-of-Sky Regional Council	Bakery Pre-Apprenticeship Program	\$100,000	\$357,450	30
Durham	NC Institute of Minority Economic Development	Public Allies NC - Robeson County	\$75,000	\$575,556	10
Haywood	Haywood County Schools	Coordinated Services to At Risk Students	\$100,000	\$491,482	40
Johnston	Johnston Community College	Developing a Lifelong Trade (DALT)	\$46,123	\$10,563	30
Lee	Central Carolina Community College	Training Rural Harnett Youth for Healthcare Careers	\$100,000	\$16,000	40
Lee	LCI, Inc. (Lee County Industries)	Manufacturing Skills Training and Young Adult Job Presentations	\$75,000	\$9,100	30
Northampton	Halifax Community College	HCC New Generation Careers	\$100,000	\$48,853	44
Rutherford	Isothermal Community College	AWS Certification Center	\$63,900	\$8,500	60
Scotland	Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce	Generation Z Careers	\$75,000	\$69,500	35
Stanly	Stanly Community College	Electric Lineman Technology-Empowering People	\$100,000	\$229,101	40
Wilson	City of Wilson	Wilson New Generations Industry Skills Training (WNGIST)	\$50,000	\$85,380	20
Yadkin	Yadkin County	Yadkin-Elkin New Generations Manufacturing Careers Initiative	\$100,000	\$10,000	60

Total FY12 New Generation Careers \$1,085,023 \$1,926,485 479

Please see Appendix P for project descriptions.

Advocacy. Rural Center staff serves on the leadership council of the National Skills Coalition, a national advocacy organization representing an array of workforce development stakeholders (businesses, unions, workforce agencies and others). Staff participated in Capitol Hill visits in February, helped shape National Skills Coalition policy stances and strategies, and provided information to congressional staff throughout the year on federal Workforce Investment Act proposals and skill gaps experienced by North Carolina companies.

Promotion of collaborative workforce development. Rural Center staff promoted collaborative workforce development through its grant criteria, training and technical assistance with grant applicants and grantees, public speaking opportunities and policy development work. These included:

- Grant criteria requiring collaboration and giving more credit in scoring to applicants that went beyond the required level of collaboration
- Continued training and technical assistance to community mobilization grantees on collaboration and working with employers on demand-driven workforce development strategies
- Webinars for grant applicants for the New Generation Careers grant program that emphasized collaboration, including collaboration with young people themselves
- Development and moderating of a panel on collaborative workforce development strategies at the October 2011 Workforce Development Partnership Conference, sponsored by the N.C. Commission on Workforce Development and the Workforce Development Training Center (N.C. Department of Commerce)
- Assistance to the Institute for Emerging Issues in developing a collaborative demonstration model for training the long-term unemployed for allied health jobs (See http://www.ncsu.edu/iei/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Demonstration-Model_June_2012.pdf)

SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Program Statement: Supplemental grants for infrastructure and business development help fund critical economic development projects that might otherwise be outside the timeline or geographic area of a specific grant program. They are targeted to local governments and nonprofits. These funds are administered with the same rigorous oversight and follow-up as other grant programs of the Rural Center, including requirements for contractual arrangements, a negotiated scope of work, regular monthly and quarterly reports, and final follow-up analysis.

FY12 Summary: Six grants totaling \$206,000 were awarded during FY12. These grants were awarded to three nonprofit economic development organizations, two local governments and one regional commission. These combined projects will leverage approximately \$2.2 million in funding for the projects they represent.

Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development - FY12

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Buncombe	Friends of Mountain History (F.O.M.H.)	Support to Build Regional Alliances, Programs of Special Interest and Develop Educational Content to Preserve Cultural & Heritage Resources	\$50,000	
Buncombe	WNC Communities	FY12 Program Support for Honors Awards and Hall of Fame Inductees, Training Sessions, the Scholarship Program and Marketing for the WNC Regional Livestock Center	\$25,000	\$109,000
Haywood	Town of Maggie Valley	Maggie Valley Revitalization through Planning, Asset Mapping and Expansion	\$20,000	
Randolph	City of Asheboro	Sunset Theatre in Asheboro	\$50,000	\$1,000,000
Rockingham	Rockingham County Business & Technology Center	Establish a Revolving Loan / Investment Fund for Rockingham County	\$11,000	\$1,000,000
Stanly	Uwharrie Regional Resources Commission	Identify, Evaluate and Determine Strategies to Protect and Enhance Natural Tourism Resources	\$50,000	\$50,000

Total FY12 Appropriation / Supplemental & Business Development	\$206,000	\$2,159,000
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Please see Appendix Q for project descriptions.

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTERS

Opportunities Industrialization Centers are nonprofit organizations that operate through a network of local affiliates. Founded in 1968 by the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, OIC of America has 60 affiliates in 32 states.

OICs continue to be leaders in providing quality education, training, and employment and housing services to economically disadvantaged people of all races and backgrounds, enabling them to become self-sufficient and to build wealth.

As directed by legislation, the Rural Center administers the funds appropriated to the Opportunities Industrialization Centers on behalf of the North Carolina General Assembly.

FY12 Summary: In FY12, four OICs received funding of \$95,000 each. All were certified as active by OIC of America at the time of contracting. Receiving funding were OICs located in Asheville, Greensboro, Rocky Mount and Wilson. Please see Appendix R for details on OIC activity.

APPENDIX A
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Rural Economic Development Center, Inc.
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended June 30, 2012

	Unrestricted		Temporarily Restricted							Total
	General Administration	e-NC Authority	General Administration	Research and Innovation	Physical Infrastructure	Business Development	Civic and Social Infrastructure	Workforce Development	e-NC Authority	
Revenues:										
Grants and gifts:										
Federal government	387,387	675,581	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,062,968
State of North Carolina			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Administration	1,302,165	-	-	4,302,250	7,523,894	1,026,670	9,059,470	1,875,000	-	1,302,165
Programs	-	-	-	-	5,840,590	-	-	-	-	24,074,564
Clean Water Bond Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,840,590
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90,789	-
Other	71,544	-	300,000	205,150	-	-	2,000	10,000	-	588,694
Foundations	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	25,000	-	1,025,000
Contract revenue	3,119,278	308,532	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,427,810
Investment income	657,679	1,983	-	-	456,261	83,165	-	-	-	1,199,088
Indirect cost reimbursement	297,101	87,509	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	384,610
Other income	82,886	-	-	11,474	-	-	-	-	-	174,085
Interfund transfers	(311,962)	-	(105,000)	450,645	(4,615,951)	(21,362)	4,603,322	308	-	-
Total revenues and other support	5,606,078	1,073,605	195,000	4,969,519	9,204,794	1,168,198	14,664,792	1,900,308	100,789	39,170,363
Expenses:										
Personnel cost	2,585,181	457,797	-	639,417	807,375	332,556	177,973	-	50,023	5,050,322
Contracted, professional and other services	351,776	181,092	-	29,402	230,432	77,325	1,125	-	-	871,152
Occupancy	108,125	12,493	-	1,818	1,081	1,848	1,509	-	-	126,874
Office	100,272	3,476	-	3,678	1,206	6,855	2,899	85	-	118,471
Supplies	27,086	4,894	-	877	949	891	1,193	-	-	35,890
Travel and meetings	220,461	42,227	-	36,642	18,842	16,458	1,142	262	10,000	346,034
Equipment, rental and maintenance	84,265	155,290	-	3,598	2,818	4,434	1,298	-	-	251,703
Marketing and outreach	419	-	-	-	-	419	-	-	-	838
Other expense	517,516	1,356	-	286	142,487	127,446	-	-	55,138	844,229
Grants	51,088	(81)	-	4,655,329	38,092,043	384,756	9,920,747	153,254	230,805	53,775,221
Indirect cost	169,550	215,061	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	384,611
Depreciation	184,176	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	184,176
Total expenses	4,399,915	1,073,605	-	5,371,047	39,297,233	952,988	10,107,886	153,601	345,966	61,989,521
Change in net assets	1,206,163	-	195,000	(401,528)	(30,092,439)	215,210	4,556,906	1,746,707	(245,177)	(22,819,158)
Net assets:										
Beginning	9,459,343	-	11,500	13,223,723	131,315,921	7,536,298	21,592,551	41	245,177	183,384,554
Ending	10,665,506	-	206,500	12,822,195	101,223,482	7,751,508	26,149,457	1,746,748	-	160,565,396

APPENDIX B

SUMMARY OF RURAL CENTER
BOARD MEETINGS

SUMMARY OF RURAL CENTER BOARD MEETINGS JULY 2011 – JUNE 2012

August 31, 2011

Board of Directors Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The nominating committee for the 2011 election was announced. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

President Billy Ray Hall gave an overview of the Rural Center's work and accomplishments for FY11. He also reported on three regional meetings hosted by the center providing citizens and organizations with information on center programs and resources available. Guests from rural communities gave presentations on how the Rural Center's programs had made a positive impact on them and their communities.

In the absence of Treasurer Curtis Wynn, Susan Dunn, vice president of finance and administration, presented the financial reports and operating budget. The board unanimously approved each.

The program committee chairs presented their reports and recommendations on the center's annual plan of work.

Business development program committee – presented by Joe Stanley
Workforce development program committee – presented by Andy Anderson
Physical infrastructure program committee – presented by Bill Gibson
Civic and social infrastructure program committee – presented by Anita Brown Graham
Agricultural Advancement Consortium – presented by Larry Wooten
Research and innovation advisory committee – presented by Mikki Sager

At the conclusion of the reports, the board approved a motion to adopt the Annual Plan of Work.

A Powerpoint presentation was given on a recommendation for defining rural North Carolina. Information was taken from the 2010 Census. Guidelines will be established regarding specific eligibility requirements. The board approved the recommendation.

It was announced that the Rural Partners Forum will be held at the North Raleigh Hilton on November 16-17, 2011. This year's theme will focus on rural youth engagement.

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

President Billy Ray Hall presented two proposals for supplemental infrastructure and business development grants. The committee approved both projects for \$50,000 each.

In the absence of Treasurer Curtis Wynn, Susan Dunn, vice president of finance and administration presented the financial reports and explained there was unrestricted funding that was not expended

during the year. The committee approved this funding be designated to seven specific categories totaling \$9,459,343.

The committee approved the following:

- Clean Water Bond Supplemental Grants Program – additional funding of \$225,386 to extend sewer service to more homes.
- Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – additional funding for two supplemental grants – (1) \$300,000 for a wastewater treatment plant and (2) \$23,824 to address project cost overruns
- Economic Infrastructure Program – 5 awards totaling \$3,350,000 and creating 435 jobs
- Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – 6 awards totaling \$1,212,206 and creating 114 jobs
- Rural Hope – 2 awards totaling \$288,000 and creating 36 jobs

Revisions to the Economic Innovations Grants Program were presented dividing the funding into two pools of \$1 million each: the competitive pool and the strategic investments pool. The committee approved the recommendation.

Proposals for the youth initiative, to be announced at the Rural Partners Forum, include two job creation programs:

- 1) Rural entrepreneurship for young adults. With an allocation of \$665,000 over three years, the program can be expected to create 150 new jobs and 100 businesses in rural counties.
- 2) Career advantage for young adults. The goal of this program is to provide resources and career development to stimulate job creation for young adults between ages 18 and 30 in rural areas. It was recommended to allocate \$1,175,000 in grants to 10 rural sites with the goal of securing 350 new permanent jobs or apprenticeships.

Funding for both programs will come from the Economic Infrastructure Fund. The committee unanimously approved both programs.

The committee heard reports from the Innovations and Outreach Division and the Rural Development Programs Division.

November 15, 2011

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

It was reported that the Audit Committee and the auditors from McGladrey & Pullen met prior to the executive committee and the Rural Center has received a clean audit.

In his report, President Billy Ray Hall presented a proposed amendment to the Rural Center's bylaws. The committee endorsed the amendment, and it will be presented to the board for final approval.

The New Generation Initiative being presented at the Rural Partners Forum was overviewed by President Hall. He recommended that \$100,000 be allocated to the New Generations Leaders

component of the initiative for grants up to \$20,000 to five rural communities. Funding will come from supplemental grants for infrastructure and business development. He also recommended that \$90,000 in research and demonstration funds be allocated to another component of the initiative, focused on a training program to make communities more welcoming for youth and young adults. The committee unanimously approved funding for both components.

The treasurer presented interim financial statements and budget reports for the three months ending September 30, 2011. An amendment to the Rural Center's 403(b) retirement plan was explained with regard to the e-NC Authority, which will cease to exist December 31, 2011. The committee unanimously approved the amendment.

The committee approved the following:

- Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 1 supplemental grant, a \$500,000 award; defer funding request of \$500,000 on a project; two scope changes; and exceptions to the one-year to construction rule for five projects
- Clean Water Bond Supplemental Grants Program – 1 award of \$300,000
- Economic Infrastructure Program – 7 awards in category A, a total of \$2,136,429 creating 216 jobs; 2 awards in category B, a total of \$727,598 creating 147 jobs
- Water and Sewer Appropriations Funds – increase in a supplemental grant award of \$36,399
- Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – vacant building category, 12 awards totaling \$2,895,938 and creating 280 jobs; occupied building category, 6 awards totaling \$1,424,793 and creating 324 jobs
- Rural Community Mobilization Grants – 12 awards totaling \$725,000 and creating 456 jobs
- Community Economic Development (CDC) Grants – 20 awards totaling \$936,000

It was announced that the governor has approved the creation of two programs under the State Small Business Credit Initiative. In addition to the Capital Access Program, the initiative will now include the Loan Participation Program and venture capital Fund of Funds.

The committee heard updates on major initiatives under the Rural Development Programs Division.

November 16, 2011

Board of Directors Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

One of the center's partners was presented with the Microenterprise Loan Program's FY11 Outstanding Service Provider of the Year Award. Brenda Orders, director of the Southeastern Community College Small Business Center in Whiteville, accepted the award from President Billy Ray Hall.

The board endorsed and approved an amendment to the Rural Center's bylaws.

The treasurer reported that the center received a clean audit on financial statements for FY11.

The nominating committee reported on new officers and directors to serve as the 2011-12 board of directors. The board unanimously approved the report.

February 28, 2012

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as corrected. Previous telephone polls of committee members to fund three projects were affirmed: Economic Infrastructure Program – 1 Category A award of \$300,000 creating 30 jobs; 2 Category B awards totaling \$545,222 creating 109 jobs.

The committee approved the recommendation of Everette Clark as a member of the board of directors.

The committee approved the following:

- Water and Sewer Programs/Appropriations Planning Grants – 37 awards totaling \$659,912
- Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 1 grant transfer; 1 scope change with \$4,000 being deobligated back to the Rural Center; 21 extensions to the one-year-to-construction rule
- Economic Infrastructure Program – 9 category A awards totaling \$2,232,695 and creating 318 jobs; 2 category B awards totaling \$95,000 and creating 19 jobs
- Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – 17 vacant building awards totaling \$2,462,743 and creating 245 jobs; 1 occupied building award in the amount of \$200,000 and creating 40 jobs; 6 Rural Hope awards totaling \$422,480 and creating 52 jobs; Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust sub-category of Rural Hope grants – 9 awards totaling \$960,000
- Economic Innovation Grants Program – Strategic investments category – 2 awards totaling 425,000 and creating 60 jobs; competitive funding category – 8 awards totaling \$748,000 and creating 236 jobs; additional funding for a project in the amount of \$57,000
- Research and Demonstration Grants Program – 2 awards totaling \$125,000
- Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development – 2 awards totaling \$36,000

The committee approved a memorandum of understanding between the Biofuels Center of North Carolina and the N.C. Rural Economic Development Center to establish working relationships with economic development partners in the state.

An update on the N.C. Small Business Credit Initiative (including the Capital Access Program, Loan Participation Program and Fund of Funds) was presented to the committee.

The committee heard about the activities in the Division of Innovation and Outreach including NC STEP, the 2012 Rural Economic Development Institute and the New Generations Initiative.

Major initiatives under the Rural Development Programs Division were overviewed for the committee.

February 29, 2012

Board of Directors Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

President Billy Ray Hall handed out an impact summary report that covered the center's activities for the first eight months of FY12. The center awarded \$22,764,362 to 159 projects helping to create 2,865 jobs during this time period.

The financial report and detailed budget reports were overviewed for the board for the six months ending December 31, 2011.

Program committee chairs gave their reports:

Business development – presented by Joe Stanley

Physical infrastructure – presented by Bill Gibson

Civic and social infrastructure – presented by Mikki Sager

Workforce development – presented by Vice Chair Scott Hamilton

After recommendations from the program committees, the board approved the 2012 Advocacy Agenda.

April 18, 2012

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as amended.

Selection of the president's evaluation committee was announced, with the committee's recommendations due at the June meeting. A handout of the procedures and responsibilities of the evaluation committee was provided.

In his report, President Billy Ray Hall stated he had requested a report on the center's governance from an attorney in Greensboro. The report was provided to all committee members with discussion taking place regarding recommendations. Changes will be incorporated into the report for consideration by the board of directors. Materials were handed out showing the rural needs and justification for additional funding for the Rural Jobs Fund and Water and Sewer Critical Needs Program for FY13. These materials will be presented to the General Assembly members.

The committee approved a supplemental grant for infrastructure and business development in the amount of \$20,000.

The treasurer reported on the financial statements for the nine months ending March 31, 2012, and detailed budget reports for the quarter ending March 31, 2012. The committee approved signatory authority for the center's deposit accounts for the president and vice presidents.

The executive committee, sitting as the audit committee, approved retaining McGladry & Pullen as the center's auditors for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. The audit committee also recommended a policy be established by the end of the year addressing the bidding out and selection of auditors. A proposed policy will be presented at the December meeting.

The audit committee went back into session as the executive committee. Members approved the following:

- Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 2 supplemental grant awards totaling \$684,000; 1 supplemental grant change of scope; extensions to the one-year-to-construction rule for four projects
- Clean Water Bond Supplemental Grant Program – 2 awards totaling \$117,500
- Water and Sewer Appropriations Planning Grant – 1 award in the amount of \$10,500
- Economic Infrastructure Program – category A, 12 awards totaling \$3,236,786 and creating 362 jobs; Category B – 1 award increasing a previous grant by \$3,750
- Building Reuse and Restoration Program – vacant building category, 15 awards totaling \$1,830,452 and creating 191 jobs; occupied building category, 8 awards totaling \$1,692,125 and creating 341 jobs
- NC STEP (Small Towns Economic Prosperity) Program – 10 new sites representing 11 towns accepted into the program
- Research and Demonstration Grants Program – 1 award of up to \$185,000
- State Small Business Credit Initiative/Fund of Funds – 6 investments totaling \$ 10.3

The committee heard updates on the programs under the N.C. Small Business Credit Initiative, major initiatives under the Rural Development Programs Division and activities under the Division of Innovation and Outreach.

June 20, 2012

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria L. Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

Chair Lee called the members into executive session. At the conclusion of the executive session, Chair Lee resumed the business session of the executive committee meeting.

President Billy Ray Hall presented the Rural Center's governance audit report with recommendations and proposed actions. The recommendations and actions were endorsed by the committee and will be recommended to the board of directors at the August meeting for final approval.

The formation of an LLC by the Rural Center in order to carry out activities associated with the Fund of Funds Program was approved by the committee.

The committee approved the Rural Manufacturing Initiative and authorized \$4 million be set aside from the Economic Infrastructure Fund for this initiative.

The committee approved two supplemental grants for infrastructure and business development totaling \$70,000.

The continuing budget resolution presented by the treasurer allowing Rural Center spending to continue past June 30, 2012, at the same level budgeted for FY12 was approved by the committee.

The committee approved the following:

- Economic Infrastructure Program – category A, 5 awards totaling \$1,105,950 and creating 144 jobs
- Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – supplemental grants, 2 awards totaling \$680,000; exceptions to the one-year-to-construction rule for 7 projects
- Water and Sewer Appropriations Funds -- 1 planning grant in the amount of \$30,000
- Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – vacant building category, 10 awards totaling \$2,290,200 and creating 224 jobs; occupied building category – 3 awards totaling \$398,796 and creating 84 jobs; Rural Hope, 3 awards totaling \$137,520 and creating 17 jobs
- Economic Innovation Grant Program – 1 award conditionally allocated in the amount of \$125,000
- New Generation Leaders Grants – 11 awards totaling \$220,000
- New Generation Careers Grants – 14 awards totaling \$1,150,023 leading to 519 job placements for individuals 18 to 30 years old
- New Generation Ventures and GATE -- \$500,000 to be designated from existing Rural Center loan programs to develop two alternative loan offerings exclusively to assist dislocated workers and young adults

An update on the state Small Business Credit Initiative was presented to the committee. Programs under this initiative include the Capital Access Program, the Loan Participation Program and Fund of Funds.

A report on activities of the Division of Innovation and Outreach was presented to the committee. Programs under this division include Rural Economic Development Institute, NC STEP and research. The committee also heard a summary of center activities scheduled for June-December.

The committee heard updates on major initiatives under the Division of Rural Development Programs. Initiatives under this division include Project GATE and Rural Community Mobilization.

APPENDIX C

CLEAN WATER PARTNERS
GRANTS

CLEAN WATER PARTNERS GRANTS - FY12

Alleghany County

Alleghany County

Elementary School Improvements

The county received a grant of \$384,000 for a new wastewater system to serve Piney Creek Elementary School.

Jackson County

Tuckasegee Water/Sewer Authority

Wastewater Plant Expansion

The water and sewer authority received a \$300,000 grant to install a liquid-chlorine system at its wastewater treatment plant.

Mitchell County

Town of Bakersville

Iron Removal Project

Bakersville received a \$300,000 grant for a system to remove iron and manganese from municipal water and for improvements to a well.

Nash County

Town of Middlesex

Water System Improvements

Middlesex received a grant of \$23,824 for the renovation of a well and the installation of new water meters.

Randolph County

Town of Franklinville

Sewer System Improvements

Franklinville received a \$500,000 grant to replace a failing sewer-collection line that serves an elementary school. The line will also connect 34 homes to the public sewer system.

Rockingham County

Town of Madison

Water System Improvements

Madison received a \$380,000 grant to upgrade the community's water treatment system.

Wilkes County

Wilkes County

Water Extension

The county received a \$300,000 grant to extend water from the Town of Ronda to serve homes with contaminated wells.

Appendix D

WATER AND SEWER
RECURRING APPROPRIATION GRANTS

WATER AND SEWER RECURRING APPROPRIATION GRANTS - FY12

Alleghany County

Town of Sparta

Hydraulic Water Model, Water Audit

Sparta received a \$20,000 grant for a water audit and planning for water system upgrades.

Bladen County

Town of Clarkton

Inflow and Infiltration Study

Clarkton received a \$40,000 grant to study inflow and infiltration problems in the town's sewer collection system.

Town of Elizabethtown

Water Supply Evaluation

Elizabethtown received a \$40,000 grant to develop plans for water system upgrades.

Town of White Lake

Inflow and Infiltration Study

White Lake received a \$20,000 grant to study the town's sanitary sewer system.

Burke County

Town of Valdese

Inflow and Infiltration Study

Valdese received a \$30,000 grant to inspect the community's sewer system and recommend improvements.

Caldwell County

Town of Cajah's Mountain

Wastewater System Master Plan

Cajah's Mountain received a \$13,100 grant to update the master plan for the wastewater collection system.

Carteret County

Town of Cedar Point

Wastewater System Report

Cedar point received a \$15,750 grant to analyze alternatives for centralized wastewater collection and treatment.

Cleveland County

City of Kings Mountain

Route Study for Water Line

Kings Mountain received a grant of \$27,137 to plan for the construction of a new water distribution line.

Columbus County

Town of Lake Waccamaw

Asset Management Plan

Lake Waccamaw received a \$15,000 grant to develop an asset management plan for its water and sewer systems.

Johnston County

Town of Benson

Water System Capital Improvement Plan

Benson received a grant of \$22,850 to develop a capital improvement plan for its water distribution system.

Jones County

Town of Maysville

Utility Infrastructure Assessment

Maysville received a \$40,000 grant for a study that will prepare the town to seek financing for water and sewer improvements.

Martin County

Town of Robersonville

Wastewater Plant Evaluation

Robersonville received a grant of \$19,750 to evaluate its wastewater treatment plant.

Mitchell County

Town of Spruce Pine

Water System Asset Management Plan

Spruce Pine received a \$20,000 grant for an asset management plan for the water system and a water loss audit.

Montgomery County

Town of Biscoe

Inflow and Infiltration Study

Biscoe received a \$40,000 grant to study sewer system for inflow and infiltration problems.

Polk County

City of Saluda

Water Study

Saluda received a grant of \$16,250 to develop a water study.

Town of Columbus

Water System Report and Plan

Columbus received a \$22,000 grant for a professional engineering report and an asset management plan for the water system.

Randolph County

Town of Ramseur

Disinfection By-Products Study

Ramseur received a grant of \$27,562 for a study improve its water treatment system.

Robeson County

City of Lumberton

Sewer System Mapping, Phase 3

Lumberton received a grant of \$40,000 to map a portion of the town's sewer system.

Rockingham County

City of Eden

Sewer Outfall Evaluation

Eden received a \$40,000 grant to inspect nearly 20,000 feet of sewer pipe in the Upper Matrimony Creek area.

Rutherford County

Town of Lake Lure

Asset Management Plan

Lake Lure received a grant of \$10,500 to develop a plan to extend the life of its water and sewer systems.

Rutherford County

Water Line Relocation

The county received a grant of \$36,399 to extend water service to 23 homes whose wells have been contaminated by a leaking underground storage tank.

Sampson County

City of Clinton

Utility Assessment

Clinton received a \$40,000 grant to inventory the wastewater system and develop an asset management plan.

Scotland County

City of Laurinburg

Outfalls Evaluation

Laurinburg received a \$40,000 grant to evaluate the Bridge and Leith creek outfalls of the wastewater collection system.

Stanly County

City of Albemarle

Biosolids Handling Study

Albemarle received a grant of \$27,375 for a sewer system study.

Stanly County

Airport Corridor Wastewater Evaluation

Stanly County received a \$40,000 grant for a wastewater evaluation that will include an analysis of sewer overflows.

Surry County

Yadkin Valley Sewer Authority

Pretreatment Plan

The authority received a \$25,000 grant to develop a wastewater pretreatment plan.

Wayne County

Town of Fremont

Lagoon Investigation

Fremont received a grant of \$8,138 to investigate the structural integrity of its wastewater lagoon.

APPENDIX E

CLEAN WATER BOND GRANTS

CLEAN WATER BOND GRANTS - FY12

Halifax County

City of Roanoke Rapids

Storm Drainage Camera System

Roanoke Rapids received a grant of \$67,500 for a camera system to inspect, maintain and map storm drains in the Halifax County town.

Lee County

City of Sanford

Hillcrest Farm Road Water Line

Sanford received a \$50,000 grant for the extension of water lines to an area where only substandard well water is available.

Pender County

Maple Hill Sewer District

Wastewater Project

The sewer district received \$225,386 to add 17 homes to its wastewater treatment and collection system.

Rockingham County

Town of Mayodan

Water Intake Improvements

Mayodan received \$300,000 for the reconstruction of the town's water-intake system, which draws water from the Mayo River.

APPENDIX F

ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
CORE PROGRAM GRANTS

**ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
CORE PROGRAM GRANTS - FY12**

Anson County

Town of Wadesboro

Cobb-Vantress Infrastructure Project

Wadesboro received a \$20,000 grant for water and sewer improvements to serve an expanding poultry company. The project will create two jobs.

Burke County

Town of Valdese

Kleen Tech Wastewater Project

Valdese received a \$150,000 grant to upgrade a wastewater treatment plant, enabling the expansion of an industrial laundry. The project will create 15 jobs.

Cleveland County

City of Shelby

Baldor Electric Lift Station

Shelby received a grant of \$137,190 for sewer system improvements to serve a new manufacturing facility. The project will create 14 jobs.

Cleveland County

Project Cardinal Water Line

The county received a grant of \$687,909 to extend water and sewer lines to a new data center in Kings Mountain. The project will create 69 jobs.

Davie County

Davie County

Davie County Hospital Project

The county received a \$500,000 grant for sewer improvements to serve new hospital. The project will create 50 jobs.

Davie County

Ashley Furniture Industries

The county received a grant of \$750,100 for sewer system improvements to serve a new manufacturing company. The project will create 76 jobs.

Duplin County

Duplin County

National Salvage Infrastructure

The county received \$150,000 for sewer system improvements and a rail spur a new salvage company in Warsaw. The project will create 30 jobs.

Harnett County

City of Dunn

Sewer to Love's Travel Stop

Dunn received a grant of \$70,000 to extend sewer lines to an expanding truck stop. The project will create seven jobs.

Harnett County**Health Services Infrastructure**

The county received a \$200,000 grant for public infrastructure to serve a new hospital. The project will create 20 jobs.

Harnett County**Medical School Infrastructure**

The county received a grant of \$351,251 to extend water and sewer lines to a new university building in Buies Creek. The project will create 36 jobs.

Henderson County**Henderson County****Sierra Nevada Water Line**

The county received \$105,166 to extend a public water line to a new brewery. The project will create 11 jobs.

Henderson County**Sierra Nevada Onsite Water & Sewer**

The county received \$212,813 to assist with onsite water and wastewater systems. The project will create 43 jobs.

Hertford County**Hertford County****Structural Coatings**

The county received a \$200,000 grant for a rail spur for an expanding steel company. The project will create 40 jobs.

Johnston County**Town of Clayton****Source Recycling Water and Sewer**

Clayton received \$39,398 to extend public water and sewer to an expanding recycling company. The projects will create four jobs.

Town of Clayton**Source Recycling Roadway Project**

Clayton received \$130,000 to build an access road for an expanding recycling company. The projects will create 26 jobs.

Town of Selma**Agrium Economic Development**

Selma received a \$40,000 grant for rail improvements for a new fertilizer manufacturer. The project will create eight jobs.

Jones County**Town of Maysville****Green Recycling Solutions**

Maysville received a \$150,000 grant to build an access road for a new recycling center and landfill. The project will create 30 jobs.

Lee County

City of Sanford

Warehouse and Distribution Expansion

Sanford received a \$290,000 grant to improve water, sewer, storm drainage and road access for an expanding warehouse and distribution facility. The project will create 58 jobs.

Lenoir County

City of Kinston

Smithfield Foods Improvements

Kinston received a \$1 million grant to upgrade water and sewer service for an expanding food processor. The project will create 100 jobs.

Montgomery County

Town of Troy

Pump Station Rehabilitation

Troy received a grant of \$87,500 for water and sewer improvements to serve an expanding food processing company. The project will create nine jobs.

Town of Troy

Wright Foods

Troy received a grant of \$130,455 for sewer, stormwater drainage and road improvements for a new food processing company. The project will create 27 jobs.

Northampton County

Northampton County

Enviva Infrastructure Project

The county received a \$620,000 grant to extend water and sewer lines to a new facility that will produce wood pellets to be burned for energy. The facility will create 62 jobs.

Pender County

Pender County

Thermic Green Access Road

The county received a \$150,000 grant for access road improvements for a new company that manufactures energy-saving refrigeration products. The project will create 30 jobs.

Rutherford County

Town of Spindale

Ameridial Fiber Infrastructure

The town received a grant of \$10,809 to install fiber-optic cable to a new call center. The project will create two jobs.

Sampson County

Town of Clinton

Smithfield Packing Water Tank

Clinton received a grant of \$885,000 for water system improvements to serve an expanding food processing company. The project will create 89 jobs.

Stanly County

City of Locust

Cabarrus Family Medicine

Locust received a grant totaling \$78,938 to extend public water and sewer to Cabarrus Family Medicine, a comprehensive family health care facility. The project will create eight jobs.

Surry County

Surry County

Interstates Water and Sewer District

The county received a \$500,000 grant for sewer improvements to assist multiple companies. The project will create 50 jobs.

Union County

Town of Indian Trail

Stone Theater/Sun Valley Commons

Indian Trail received a \$300,000 grant for road improvements for a new retail development. The project will create 30 jobs.

Vance County

Vance County

Satterwhite Point Road Water Project

The county received a grant of \$32,038 for water system improvements to serve an expanding refrigeration company. The project will create four jobs.

Washington County

Town of Plymouth

Plymouth Solar Access Road

Plymouth received a \$55,000 grant to build an access road for a renewable energy company. The project will create 12 jobs.

Watauga County

Town of Blowing Rock

Hospital Services Expansion Project

Blowing Rock received a grant of \$585,495 for water and sewer improvements to serve a new hospital. The project will create 59 jobs.

APPENDIX G

ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
RURAL JOBS FUND GRANTS

**ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
RURAL JOBS FUND GRANTS—FY12**

Cleveland County

Cleveland County

Clearwater Paper Rail Improvements

The county received a \$445,500 grant to build a rail spur for an expanding paper products company. The project will create 90 jobs.

Davie County

Town of Mocksville

CPP Global Project

Mocksville received a grant of \$327,320 to construct a rail spur for an expanding plastics company. The project will create 66 jobs.

Johnston County

Town of Clayton

Caterpillar Infrastructure

Clayton received a \$500,000 grant for water, natural gas and access-road improvements to serve a new manufacturing plant. The project will create 100 jobs.

Lee County

Lee County

Caterpillar Access Road

The county received a \$500,000 grant to assist with access-road improvements in the Lee County Industrial Park. The project will allow a manufacturer of construction and mining equipment to expand its operations. The expansion will create 100 jobs.

Randolph County

City of Trinity

Smoky T's BBQ Retention Pond

Trinity received a \$20,000 grant to build a storm water retention pond for a new restaurant. The project will create four jobs.

Rutherford County

Rutherford County

Project Chrysalis Rail Spur

The county received a \$500,000 grant for rail-spur improvements for a mineral-production facility. The project will create 100 jobs.

Stanly County

City of Locust

Cabarrus Family Medicine

Locust received a grant of \$78,750 for onsite water and sewer improvements and access road construction for the Cabarrus Family Medicine facility. The project will create 15 jobs.

APPENDIX H

N.C. SMALL TOWNS
ECONOMIC PROSPERITY PROGRAM

N.C. SMALL TOWNS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY PROGRAM

Implementation Plans for Phase II Communities

Town of Bayboro focused on attracting visitors and new residents by conducting an amenities inventory and a hotel complex feasibility study. The town also built a pavilion at the Heritage Center and Chamber of Commerce location for public events and a farmers market.

Town of Boonville worked with Surry Community College, the Appalachian State University Center for Entrepreneurship and SCORE to initiate a recruitment and training program for new entrepreneurs. It will also establish a network of interested businesses and service providers to address ongoing training needs and other issues in the business community.

Town of Erwin is supporting business growth through a buy-local campaign and a business expo.

Town of Forest City is supporting an apprentice program to prepare individuals for opening their own businesses.

Town of Franklin is promoting tourism through the creation and implementation of a river development plan for the Little Tennessee River. It also is developing a marketing program to attract more tourists, second-home buyers and retirees into the Franklin area.

Town of Lansing is investing in a public computer center to focus on technology education and business development and support.

Town of Rowland is investing in a retiree attraction program and the development of a website to market the town.

Town of Tabor City is developing a logo and branding strategy to attract new businesses and residents.

Town of Weldon is investing in streetscape improvements, façade improvements and signage to attract people from I-95 into the town.

Town of Whitakers is focusing on workforce training and development by expanding the library for educational and training purposes and upgrading learning equipment and infrastructure in the library's Del Center.

Andrews and Old Fort joined the Phase I High Country and Western clusters coordinated by Handmade in America. Andrews will establish a community-based broadband network to improve Internet access, and Old Fort will develop a community brand and logo and improve the Mill Creek Trail to attract tourists to the community.

Implementation Plans for Phase III Communities

Town of Burnsville has created a development group to implement a comprehensive approach to business development and entrepreneurship, with an emphasis on the agricultural, retail and service sectors and the arts community. It also developed a tourism initiative.

Town of Canton is implementing a marketing program targeting families in the Asheville area, developing a travel information center on I-40 and providing small business and entrepreneurship training.

Town of Hertford is developing a branding program, plans for waterfront improvement and seasonal farm tours and providing matching grants for commercial property renovations.

Town of Maysville has created an outdoor adventure website and trails network. It also will promote Maysville as a small village alternative to New Bern and Jacksonville for families.

Town of Ramseur is investing in building renovation incentives, small business assistance, a business center, community branding and river access facilities.

Town of Red Springs is developing a digital arts training center, conducting a youth entrepreneurship camp and improving community gateways.

Town of Robbinsville is encouraging building renovation and focusing on tourism initiatives, including a website and wireless Internet access.

Town of Siler City is developing wayfinding signage, building improvement incentives and a retirement destination marketing program.

Town of Star is encouraging the renovation of retail structures, developing a branding and marketing program, and developing an agribusiness retail center.

Town of Warsaw is acquiring and renovating a vacant building, implementing a youth careers initiative and assisting in job skills improvements.

Town of Windsor is developing riverfront facilities, including a campground, river walk and tourist attraction, assisting building renovations and developing entryways from the new bypass.

APPENDIX I

ECONOMIC INNOVATION GRANTS

ECONOMIC INNOVATION GRANTS - FY12

Buncombe County

Mountain BizWorks

Empowering Latinos

Mountain BizWorks received an \$88,000 grant to provide Spanish-language business and entrepreneurship coaching in western North Carolina. The project, which is expected to create 17 jobs and retain 41, aims to mitigate language and cultural barriers that can impede Latinos' ability to start small businesses.

Chowan County

ARCD

Wind Energy Project

The Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council received a grant of \$57,000 to implement workforce and economic development initiatives around wind energy generation in northeastern North Carolina. The project will create eight jobs.

Cleveland County

Destination Cleveland County

Earl Scruggs Center

Destination Cleveland County received a \$100,000 grant to develop and produce music and history exhibits for the Earl Scruggs Center: Music and Stories from the American South. The center will be housed in a renovated historic courthouse in downtown Shelby. The project is projected to create four direct jobs and 73 indirect jobs in tourism and service-related companies.

Henderson County

AdvantageWest

Enhancing WNC's Capacity to Grow

AdvantageWest North Carolina received a \$100,000 grant to add packaging and processing capability to the established Blue Ridge Food Ventures shared-use commercial kitchen facility in Candler. The project is projected to create 17 jobs and address the needs of the growing natural products industry.

Montgomery County

Central Park N.C.

Building a Glass Arts Community

The nonprofit Central Park N.C. received a \$100,000 grant to establish artist residences and internships to foster business skills and income-generating opportunities in glass blowing. The project is expected to create 10 jobs and retain four jobs while capitalizing on the growing cluster of glass-blowing artists in the Star area.

Orange County

Regional Technology Strategies

Art & Manufacturing-Siler City

Regional Technology Strategies received a \$100,000 grant to generate new product opportunities and create jobs in the tile and flooring industry. The project involves adding artistic and design elements to products to be manufactured in a Siler City plant and increasing workforce training. It is expected to create 15 jobs and retain another 15.

Pasquotank County

College of the Albemarle

Regional Aviation Center

The college received a \$100,000 grant to develop a regional training and technical aviation center. The center, to be located in Currituck County, will enable students to earn an FAA-approved aircraft mechanic's certificate or an associate's degree in aviation. The project is expected to create 25 jobs.

Scotland County

Scotland County ED Corp.

Small Business Innovation Center

The Scotland County Economic Development Corp. received a grant of \$85,000 to expand business services and consolidate business and workforce development service providers in Scotland County at a one-stop location. The project is expected to create 60 jobs.

Wake County

N.C. State University

People-First Tourism

The university received a \$75,000 grant to take advantage of advances in technology to connect small-market rural tourism entrepreneurs with traditionally difficult-to-reach tourist markets. The project is expected to create 15 jobs and retain 60.

N.C. State University

Niche Meat Industry

The university's Center for Environmental Farming Systems received a grant of \$325,000 to provide custom meat processors across the state with training, technical expertise and equipment upgrades for local and niche meat markets. This project is expected to create 20 jobs at processing facilities and assist in the retention of an additional 60.

N.C. Agricultural Foundation

Farmhand Foods

The N.C. Agricultural Foundation received a \$100,000 grant to focus on scaling and evaluating the Farmhand Foods business model for expanding markets and the supply of North Carolina produced niche meats. The project is expected to create 40 farming jobs.

APPENDIX J

BUILDING REUSE PROGRAM
VACANT BUILDING GRANTS

BUILDING REUSE PROGRAM, VACANT BUILDING GRANTS - FY12

Anson County

Town of Wadesboro

Greenscape

Wadesboro received a \$96,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a wholesale lawn and garden supplier. The project will create 12 jobs.

Burke County

City of Morganton

Project Bill

Morganton received a \$480,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a bearing manufacturer. The project will create 40 jobs.

City of Morganton

Skelly Inc.

Morganton received a \$72,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a foam fabrication company. The project will create six jobs.

Town of Rutherford College

Michelle's Bakery

The town received a \$132,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a wholesale bakery. The project will create 11 jobs.

Caldwell County

Caldwell County

Carolina Prime Pet

The county received a \$480,000 grant to renovate a vacant Lenoir building for use by a manufacturer of pet treats. The project will create 40 jobs.

City of Lenoir

Sweet T's

Lenoir received a \$15,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create six jobs.

City of Lenoir

Randall Miller Co.

Lenoir received a \$120,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a trucking company. The project will create 10 jobs.

Town of Granite Falls

Lubrimetal Corp.

Granite Falls received a \$132,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by the manufacturer of an industrial lubricant. The project will create 11 jobs.

Chatham County

Town of Pittsboro

Green Renovation-Alpha Install

Pittsboro received a \$128,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a technology service company. The project will create 16 jobs.

Town of Siler City**Lazar Expansion**

Siler City received a \$182,125 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a furniture manufacturer. The renovation will add manufacturing space and create 37 jobs.

Chowan County**Town of Edenton****Hometown Sears Store**

Edenton received a \$32,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a department store. The project will create four jobs.

Cleveland County**Cleveland County****Baldor Expansion**

The county received a \$780,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Shelby for use by a manufacturer of wind generators. The project will create 65 jobs.

Columbus County**Columbus County****Wilmington Shipping Co.**

The county received a \$48,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Chadbourn for use by a shipping company. The project will create four jobs.

Columbus County**Project Car Seat**

The county received a \$120,280 grant to renovate a vacant Whiteville building for use by a fabric manufacturer. The project will create 15 jobs.

Dare County**Dare County****Gunboat Renovation**

The county received a \$249,152 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a boat manufacturer. The project will create 31 jobs.

Davie County**Davie County****Ashley Furniture**

The county received a \$480,000 grant to renovate a vacant Mocksville building for use by a furniture manufacturer. The project will create 40 jobs.

City of Mocksville**Carolina Precision Plastics**

Mocksville received a \$480,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a plastics company. The project will create 40 jobs.

Franklin County

Town of Franklinton

Johnny's on Main

Franklinton received a \$40,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create five jobs.

Halifax County

Town of Scotland Neck

Braxton Repair Shop

Scotland Neck received a \$24,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by an automotive repair center. The project will create three jobs.

Town of Weldon

Weldon Restaurant

Weldon received a \$64,000 to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create eight jobs.

Town of Weldon

Southwest Fiberglass

Weldon received a \$32,350 to renovate a vacant building for use by a manufacturer of fiberglass pools. The project will create three jobs.

Harnett County

City of Dunn

John A. McKay House

Dunn received a \$32,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create four jobs.

Haywood County

Haywood County

Project Staples

The county received a \$175,000 grant to renovate a building used by a plastics company. The company will expand its operations and create 35 jobs.

Town of Waynesville

The Strand Theater

Waynesville received a \$50,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a company that repairs barcode scanners. The project will create five jobs.

Henderson County

Henderson County

Legacy Paddlesports

The county received a \$240,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Fletcher for use by a kayak manufacturer. The project will create 30 jobs.

Hertford County

Hertford County

Enviva Pellets

The county received a \$141,049 grant to renovate two buildings for use by an Ahoskie wood-pellet manufacturer. The project will create 25 jobs.

Hertford County

Alfiniti Logistics HVAC

The county received a \$265,100 grant to renovate a building for use by a manufacturer of automotive heating and air conditioning systems. The project will create 23 jobs.

Town of Ahoskie

Abrams BBQ

Ahoskie received a \$160,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create 20 jobs.

Iredell County

City of Statesville

Abundant Manufacturing

Statesville received a \$176,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a gear manufacturer. The project will create 22 jobs.

Johnston County

Town of Smithfield

Paws N Claws

Smithfield received a \$64,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a pet care business. The project will create eight jobs.

Jones County

Town of Maysville

Maysville Holdings

Maysville received a \$24,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by three start-up companies: a flea and farmers market, an industrial cleaning company and a woodworking company. The project will create three jobs.

Lee County

Lee County

WST Industries

The county received a \$85,689 grant to renovate a vacant building in Sanford for use by an industrial contracting company. The project will create 12 jobs.

Martin County

Martin County

Marco Co.

The county received a \$426,500 grant to renovate a vacant Jamesville building for use by a company that makes merchandise displays. The project will create 55 jobs.

McDowell County

McDowell County

Project Tilson

The county received a \$240,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Marion for use by a machine shop. The project will create 20 jobs.

McDowell County

SBFI-North America

The county received a \$157,700 grant to renovate a vacant Old Fort building for use by a furniture accessory company. The project will create 14 jobs.

Mitchell County

Mitchell County

BRP US Expansion

The county received a \$250,000 grant to renovate a building used by a manufacturer of recreational vehicles. The company will expand and create 52 jobs.

Montgomery County

Town of Troy

Aseptia Inc.

Troy received two grants totaling \$480,000 to renovate a vacant building for use by a food-processing company. The project will create 40 jobs.

Moore County

Town of Aberdeen

Royal Threads

Aberdeen received a \$48,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a commercial screen printing and embroidery company. The project will create six jobs.

Pender County

Pender County

Thermic Green Building

The county received a \$480,000 grant to renovate a vacant Rocky Point building for use by a company that manufactures energy-saving refrigeration products. The project will create 40 jobs.

Randolph County

Randolph County

FPE NC

The county received a \$364,800 grant to renovate a vacant building in Asheboro for use by a plastic-injection molding company. The project will create 32 jobs.

Robeson County

Robeson County

James C. McGirt Enterprise

The county received a \$80,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Lumberton for use by a company that will operate a convenience store, insurance agency and cell phone store. The project will create 10 jobs.

Robeson County**Wee Farm & Family Learning**

The county received a \$64,000 grant to renovate a vacant Lumberton building for use by a child care center. The project will create eight jobs.

Rockingham County**City of Reidsville****Celtic Fringe**

Reidsville received a \$23,363 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create five jobs.

Rockingham County**Piedmont Distillers**

The county received a \$50,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Madison for use by a distillery. The project will create five jobs.

Rutherford County**Rutherford County****Wells Jenkins Wells**

The county received a \$96,000 grant to renovate a vacant building in Forest City for use by a meat processor. The project will create eight jobs.

Rutherford County**Isothermal Textile Services**

The county received a \$256,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a commercial laundry. The project will create 22 jobs.

Rutherford County**Ameridial Building Expansion**

The county received a \$310,000 grant to renovate a building used by a telephone-service company. The company will expand and create 62 jobs.

Rutherford County**Henry Molded Products**

The county received a \$288,000 grant to renovate a vacant Forest City building for use by a package manufacturer. The project will create 24 jobs.

Town of Spindale**Diamondback Tactical**

Spindale received a \$480,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a manufacturer of law enforcement and military armor. The project will create 40 jobs.

Sampson County**Town of Roseboro****Caboose Sports Bar**

Roseboro received a \$48,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant. The project will create six jobs.

Surry County

City of Mount Airy

Advanced Electronics Services

Mount Airy received a \$359,250 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by an industrial electronics manufacturer. The project will create 30 jobs.

Town of Pilot Mountain

Elastrix

Pilot Mountain received a \$432,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a polymer engineering firm. The project will create 41 jobs.

Swain County

Swain County

Tuckaseegee Mills

The county received a \$184,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a home manufacturer. The project will create 23 jobs.

Union County

City of Monroe

Project STARR

Monroe received a \$184,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a drum-set manufacturer. The project will create 23 jobs.

Town of Indian Trail

Project Roll

Indian Trail received a \$128,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a rubber products manufacturer. The project will create 16 jobs.

Vance County

Vance County

Appliance and Home Care

The county received a \$64,000 to renovate a vacant building in Henderson for use by a business that sells and repairs appliances. The project will create eight jobs.

Vance County

Project Emergency

The county received a \$64,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by two businesses, a building manufacturer and a vehicle refurbishing company. The project will create eight jobs.

Washington County

Town of Creswell

Main Street Eatery

Creswell received a \$40,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a restaurant and catering company. The project will create five jobs.

Watauga County

Watauga County

Aaron's Sales and Lease

The county received a \$44,843 grant to renovate a vacant building in Boone for use by a business that will rent furniture and electronics. The project will create eight jobs.

Wilkes County

Town of North Wilkesboro

PowerSport Grafx

North Wilkesboro received a \$72,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a graphics company. The project will create six jobs.

Wilkes County

Manzella Worldwide

The county received a \$135,171 grant to renovate a vacant Wilkesboro building for use by a textile manufacturer. The project will create 12 jobs.

Wilson County

City of Wilson

Expanding Opportunities

The city received a \$56,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by a small grocery store, ice cream shop and deli, along with a workforce development center. The project will create seven jobs.

Yadkin County

Town of Jonesville

Parrish Tire

Jonesville received a \$93,292 to renovate a vacant building for use by a tire and automotive center. The project will create 12 jobs.

APPENDIX K

BUILDING REUSE PROGRAM
RURAL JOBS FUND/OCCUPIED BUILDING GRANTS

**BUILDING REUSE PROGRAM
RURAL JOBS FUND/OCCUPIED BUILDING GRANTS - FY12**

Beaufort County

City of Washington

Weir Valves and Controls

Washington received a \$410,000 grant to renovate a building used by a valve manufacturing company. The company will expand and create 82 jobs.

Burke County

City of Morganton

Project Zeke

Morganton received a \$500,000 grant to renovate a building used by a poultry processor. The company will add a second processing line and create 100 jobs.

Town of Valdese

Project Cathode

Valdese received a \$270,000 grant to renovate a building used by a battery manufacturer. The company will expand its operations and create 54 jobs.

Caldwell County

Caldwell County

Avery Dennison

The county received a \$53,796 grant to renovate a Lenoir building used by a company that prints labels for apparel. The company will expand its operations and create 15 jobs.

City of Lenoir

RollEase

Lenoir received a \$30,000 grant to renovate a building used by a manufacturer of window-covering components. The company will expand its operations and create six jobs.

Chowan County

Town of Edenton

Project Colony

Edenton received a \$150,000 grant to renovate a building used by a tire manufacturer. The company will expand its warehouse and retread operation, creating 30 jobs.

Cleveland County

Cleveland County

Kendrion FAS Controls

The county received a \$285,000 grant to renovate a building used by a valve manufacturer. The company will expand its production and create 57 jobs.

Cleveland County

B&W Fiberglass

The county received a \$50,000 grant to renovate a building used by a fiberglass company. The company will expand its manufacturing operations and create 10 jobs.

Columbus County

Columbus County

Project Nice Blends

The county received a \$115,593 grant to renovate a Whiteville building used by a food processing company. The company will expand production and create 25 jobs.

Duplin County

Town of Faison

Cottle Strawberry Nursery

Faison received a \$200,000 grant to renovate a building used by a strawberry nursery. The renovation will upgrade a refrigerated warehouse to meet accreditation standards and improve building security. The project will create 40 jobs.

Granville County

Granville County

Shalag Phase II

The county received a \$125,000 grant to renovate a building in Oxford used by a fabric manufacturer. The company will double its production capacity and create 25 jobs.

Hertford County

Hertford County

Metal Tech

The county received a \$100,000 grant to expand a Murfreesboro firm's steel fabrication and industrial maintenance operations. The project will create 20 jobs.

Wilkes County

Town of Wilkesboro

Integrity Design

The county received a \$75,000 grant to renovate a Wilkesboro building used by a manufacturer of retail displays and fixtures. The company will expand and create 15 jobs.

APPENDIX L

BUILDING REUSE
RURAL HOPE GRANTS

BUILDING REUSE, RURAL HOPE GRANTS - FY12

Bladen County

Town of Bladenboro

Bladen Healthcare

Bladenboro received a \$160,000 grant to renovate a vacant building for use by an obstetrics and gynecology provider. The project will create 20 jobs.

Carteret County

Town of Newport

Crystal Coast Hospice

Newport received a \$128,000 grant for construction of a 10-bed hospice facility. The project will create 16 jobs.

Chowan County

Town of Edenton

Eye Care of Edenton

Edenton received a \$16,000 grant to expand an optometrist's office. The project will create two jobs.

Duplin County

Duplin County

Duplin General Hospital

The county received a \$96,000 grant to add four exam rooms and one mental health room to Duplin General Hospital's emergency area. The project will create 12 jobs.

Granville County

Granville County

Drake Dentistry

The county received a \$56,000 grant to build a dental office. The project will create seven jobs.

Granville County

Granville Medical Center

The county received an \$88,000 grant for the expansion of Granville Health System's emergency area. The plan includes a new emergency department and areas for surgical services and the laboratory department. The project will create 11 jobs.

Greene County

Town of Hookerton

Hookerton Family Dentist

Hookerton received a \$48,000 grant for construction of a dental office. The project will create six jobs.

Harnett County

City of Dunn

Wound Care Center

Dunn received an \$80,000 grant to add a wound care center at Harnett Health System. The project will create 10 jobs.

Hertford County

Hertford County

Community Health Center

The county received two grants totaling \$120,000 for improvements to Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center's building in Ahoskie. This grant supplements an earlier award. The project will create 15 jobs.

Johnston County

Johnston County

Emergency Services Expansion

The county received a \$56,000 grant to expand Johnston Memorial Hospital's emergency area. The project will create seven jobs.

APPENDIX M

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION PROFILES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROFILES

Countywide Community Development Corp.

Brunswick County

The CDC provides training in money management, financial literacy, asset acquisition home repair and weatherization and small business development. Countywide CDC currently operates three major programs -- the Affordable Housing Program, Project UPLIFT and Entrepreneurship Training for Historically Underutilized Businesses -- and collaborates with Brunswick Community College in sponsoring the Minority Contractor Support Center.

Eagle/Market Streets Development Corp.

Buncombe County

The organization's chief aims are to restore buildings and businesses as assets in the immediate and surrounding area and to provide financial literacy, employment and business development services for low-wealth communities in Buncombe County.

Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corp.

Burke County

Olive Hill is a certified HUD housing counseling agency committed to providing a variety of self-sufficiency programs. These include programs in affordable homeownership, foreclosure prevention, financial management skills, IDA strategies, maternity health and transitional housing.

One Dozen Who Care

Cherokee County

One Dozen Who Care seeks to strengthen local leadership and create strong community bonds through cultural events and the social and economic interaction of the community. Projects focus on youth/young adult small business training, providing leadership development, entrepreneurship and job training, photography training, community advocacy support and preservation of African-American culture and heritage.

Columbus County DREAM Center

Columbus County

The center addresses housing issues, technology literacy and job training. Efforts continue to increase the quality of life for children and families with a particular focus on low- to moderate-income families. Program activities include after-school tutoring, financial literacy; home foreclosure counseling and referrals; homebuyer education and counseling; and construction of affordable homeowner and rental properties.

Cumberland Regional Improvement Corp.

Cumberland County

The organization provides program support and technical assistance for economic development initiatives. With the support of strategic partners, it works to identify and eliminate barriers faced by historically underutilized businesses, to promote greater access to construction contracts and to provide management training, technical assistance and general contracting counseling.

Goler Community Development Corp.

Forsyth County

The organization provides housing opportunities for moderate-income citizens living in blighted areas of Winston-Salem and creates jobs in the construction trades. Goler engages in mixed-use multifamily housing projects, condominium development and commercial construction.

Rosenwald Center for Cultural Enrichment**Greene County**

The organization supports community development through computer training, summer youth camps, after-school programs, homeownership education and counseling, financial literacy training, small business development training and affordable housing development.

Triad Economic Development Corp.**Guilford County**

Triad EDC focuses on community blight, affordable housing, job training, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, youth job-skills training and community building.

Regeneration Development Group**Halifax County**

Regeneration's main focus is the Workforce Training and Job Creation Initiative. Activities provide improved training opportunities for citizens who are currently underemployed or unemployed with the goal of placing them in jobs within 30 miles of Scotland Neck.

Blue Springs-Hoke County Community Development Corp.**Hoke County**

The organization works in the areas of housing renovation and construction, microenterprise development, foreclosure prevention, homebuyer education, and projects and programs that provide academic and cultural enrichment.

Bayboro Development Center**Pamlico County**

The center focuses on helping low- and moderate-income families/individuals qualify for and obtain affordable mortgages, build assets and repair single family substandard homes. It also provides foreclosure prevention and homebuyer education services.

River City Community Development Corp.**Pasquotank County**

River City CDC is a certified HUD housing counseling agency that provides programs related to affordable housing, Youth Build training, economic and workforce development, health and wellness, cultural awareness, financial literacy and entrepreneurial job training opportunities.

Community Empowerment Project**Rutherford County**

The project provides opportunities for small business incubation, after-school and summer youth programs, financial literacy training, vocational and technical assistance, and other human services. It seeks to galvanize community action toward the elimination of sickness, poverty, crime and discrimination.

Sampson County Community Development Corp.**Sampson County**

Sampson County CDC provides affordable rental and homeownership opportunities to low-income families, credit and financial literacy training, leadership development for local churches, agriculture training, entrepreneurial development and educational programming for at-risk children and parents.

Tyrrell County Community Development Corp.**Tyrrell County**

Tyrrell County CDC provides entrepreneurship education and financial literacy training to adults and youth; offers business, technology development and agricultural training; assists residents in securing loans for business ventures; and provides technical assistance to mushroom growers in Tyrrell County.

Restoration Community Development Corp.**Wake County**

Restoration CDC addresses housing, social and economic parity issues in low-wealth communities of northern Wake and southern Franklin counties. The program focuses on mentoring, tutoring, social development and community service. Core programs are youth enrichment, financial literacy, and housing education and counseling.

Warren Family Institute**Warren County**

The institute encourages asset-building strategies through affordable homeownership opportunities and promotes job creation. It also provides direct services to parents and youth, such as free tax preparation services, micro business training, financial literacy training and after-school mentoring and tutoring.

New Life Community Development Corp.**Washington County**

The mission of the organization is to improve the quality of life for families and neighborhoods and to empower the area's low-income residents with the knowledge, skills and resources to gain self-sufficiency. This is accomplished through the provision of affordable housing, homebuyer education, financial literacy training, foreclosure prevention training, agriculture training, hands-on farmers market project and job skills training.

Appalachian Housing Initiative**Wilkes County**

This organization works to create affordable rental and homeownership opportunities and to provide programming related to youth and adult financial literacy, homebuyer education and counseling, and entrepreneurship and job training for low- to moderate-income families.

APPENDIX N

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENT
CONSORTIUM GRANTS

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENT CONSORTIUM GRANTS - FY12

Wake County

N.C. Agricultural Foundation

Young Farmers and Ranchers Outreach

The foundation received a grant of \$14,093 for its Young Farmer and Rancher Outreach Initiative. The project, a response to the increasing average age of North Carolina farmers, provided the opportunity for 50 young farmers and ranchers to meet with the agriculture leadership of the state to document and discuss the needs, opportunities and challenges they face. The foundation is based at N.C. State University.

N.C. Agricultural Foundation

Project ASPIRE

A \$40,000 grant to the foundation supported Project ASPIRE. The project aims to increase rural college-going rates by helping students prepare for the ACT college entrance examination and complete college applications. It focuses on reaching students in Tier 1 counties through specially trained 4-H counselors. Cooperating organizations include the NCSU College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, N.C. Cooperative Extension and N.C. 4-H Youth Development program.

N.C. Department of Agriculture

Commissioner's Food Safety Forum

A \$5,000 grant supported the Commissioner's Food Safety Forum. The forum provides North Carolina farmers and agriculture leaders with information and tools to ensure that all products grown and processed in the state are of the highest quality and safe for consumption.

APPENDIX O

RURAL COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION GRANTS

RURAL COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION GRANTS - FY12

Anson County

South Piedmont Community College Anson-Union Workforce Development

The college received a \$75,000 grant to provide tuition assistance, internships and career coaching, leading to advanced manufacturing careers, for lower-skilled, dislocated workers in Anson and Union counties. The project will place 36 workers in new jobs.

Burke County

Burke Partnership New Employable Workforce

Burke Partnership for Economic Development received a grant of \$55,000 to develop a job training program in collaboration with seven manufacturers and workforce development partners in Burke County and the surrounding area. The project will place 36 workers in new jobs.

Chatham County

Hispanic Liaison of Chatham County Income Development Center

Hispanic Liaison of Chatham County received a \$40,000 grant to match small businesses with apprentices, train dislocated workers for self-employment and assist dislocated workers with finding new jobs. The project will place 50 workers in new jobs.

Cherokee County

Tri-County Community College Manufacturing Certification

The college received a \$55,000 grant for a training program leading to manufacturing skill certifications in Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties. The project will place 55 workers in new jobs.

Columbus County

Southeastern Community College Project JOBS

The college received a \$40,000 grant for on-the-job training, skills training and work-related credentials to benefit dislocated workers in Columbus County. The project will place 36 workers in new jobs.

Halifax County

Regeneration Development Group Allied Health Workforce Training

Regeneration Development Group received a \$50,000 grant to teach basic employability skills and provide training for certified nurse's aides. The program will serve Edgecombe and Halifax counties. The project will place 30 workers in new jobs.

Lenoir County

Lenoir Community College

Triage

The college received a \$40,000 grant to identify candidates who are well suited for allied health careers and provide appropriate training. The project will place 40 workers in new jobs.

Person County

Piedmont Community College

Workforce Certification Academy

The college received a \$70,000 grant to create a certified production training program for workers in Person and Caswell counties. PCC will be the first community college in North Carolina to offer the program in its entirety. The project will place 53 workers in new jobs.

Pitt County

Pitt Community College

Certified Logging Equipment Operators

The college received a \$50,000 grant to develop an intensive logger-operator course for the N.C. Loggers Association and its members. The program will serve counties east of I-95. The project will place 25 workers in new jobs.

Robeson County

Center for Community Action

Career Pathways Project

The Center for Community Action received a \$70,000 grant for job training programs focusing on health care, education, hospitality and green industries in Robeson County. The project will place 40 workers in new jobs.

Vance County

Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity

Training Assistance Partnership

Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity Inc. received a \$70,000 grant to provide skills development, full-service case management and support services for dislocated workers in Franklin, Vance, Warren and Granville counties. The project will place 36 workers in new jobs.

Wilson County

OIC of Wilson

Jobs Now Plus

The Opportunities Industrialization Center of Wilson Inc. received a \$110,000 grant to incorporate math and technology skills into vocational training targeted to several area employers. The project will place 60 workers in new jobs.

APPENDIX P

NEW GENERATION CAREERS GRANTS

NEW GENERATION CAREERS GRANTS - FY12

Brunswick County

Brunswick Community College

New Generation Careers-Brunswick

The college received a \$100,000 grant to train more than 50 young adults and place 40 in jobs in Brunswick County. This project will establish a collaboration between Brunswick Community College and Brunswick Housing Opportunities Inc. to focus on career development in such fields as health care, industrial and vehicle maintenance, and green housing construction.

Buncombe County

Land-of-Sky Regional Council

Bakery Pre-Apprenticeship Program

Land of Sky, working with My Place Inc., received a \$100,000 grant to serve 80 young adults and place 30 in jobs. The participants will receive on-the-job bakery training, culinary classroom instruction, life-skills coaching and job-placement assistance in Henderson County. The project is one of the first pre-apprenticeship programs under an initiative of the N.C. Department of Labor.

Durham County

N.C. IMED

Public Allies-Robeson County

N.C. Institute of Minority Economic Development received a \$75,000 grant to train 50 young adults and place 10 in jobs. During the 10-month program, participants will work full-time for nonprofit organizations in Robeson County.

Haywood County

Haywood County Schools

Coordinated Services to At-Risk Youth

The school system received a \$100,000 grant to serve at least 75 young adults and place 40 in jobs. The grant will expand an existing program through which participants earn high school diplomas, explore job possibilities and design career paths.

Johnston County

Johnston Community College

Developing a Lifelong Trade

The college received a grant of \$46,123 to train 45 young adults and place 30 in jobs. The grant will support training for Johnston County students who are preparing for manufacturing jobs.

Lee County

Central Carolina Community College

Training Youth for Health-Care Careers

The college received a \$100,000 grant to train 75 young adults and place 40 in jobs. The project will help meet the needs of health care employers in Harnett County.

Lee County Industries**Manufacturing Skills Training**

Lee County Industries received a grant of \$75,000 to train 60 young adults and place 30 in jobs. The project will target those with disabilities or other barriers to employment in Chatham and Lee counties. It will provide manufacturing skills training, work readiness preparation, work experience and job placement.

Northampton County**Halifax Community College****HCC New Generation Careers**

The college received a \$100,000 grant to train 52 young people and place 44 in jobs in Halifax and Northampton counties. A training program will prepare participants to enroll in nursing, maintenance or computer courses.

Rutherford County**Isothermal Community College****AWX Certification Center**

The college received a grant of \$63,900 to train 120 young adults and place 60 in jobs. The grant will enable the school's welding program to become accredited through the American Welding Society, enhancing the credentials of its graduates. The project will serve students from Cleveland, Polk and Rutherford counties.

Scotland County**Chamber of Commerce****Generation Z Careers**

The Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce received a \$75,000 grant to train 50 young adults and place 35 in jobs. The project will blend on-the-job experience with other training to assist unemployed and underemployed workers.

Stanly County**Stanly Community College****Electric Lineman Technology**

The college received a \$100,000 grant to train 50 young adults and place 40 in jobs. The project will provide young adults in Anson, Montgomery, Stanly and Union counties with instruction in how to install and repair power lines.

Wilson County**City of Wilson****Industry Skills Training**

Wilson received a grant of \$50,000 to train 36 young adults and place 20 in jobs. The project will involve on-the-job training in the repair and conservation of sculptures in Wilson County.

Yadkin County

Yadkin County

Manufacturing Careers Initiative

Yadkin County, working with the Town of Elkin, received a \$100,000 grant to train 120 young adults and place 60 in jobs. Working with unemployed and underemployed young people in Surry and Yadkin counties, the initiative will address employability and job turnover issues, implement workforce recruitment strategies and provide on-the-job work experience.

APPENDIX Q

SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS
FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - FY12

Buncombe County

Friends of Mountain History

Regional Alliances

The Friends of Mountain History received a \$50,000 grant to support the nonprofit organization, which supports museums, historic sites and heritage organizations in 25 western counties. Among other endeavors, the organization will reprint the Western North Carolina Museum Guide.

WNC Communities

Program Support

The WNC Communities received a \$25,000 grant to support its program of work for FY12. The nonprofit organization serves the state's 19 westernmost counties.

Haywood County

The Town of Maggie Valley

Planning, Asset Mapping, Expansion

Maggie Valley received a \$20,000 grant to develop strategies that will unite the town's business community and create marketing plans that will lead to more year-round business activity.

Randolph County

City of Asheboro

Sunset Theatre

Asheboro received a \$50,000 to renovate a theater.

Rockingham County

Rockingham Business Center

Revolving Loan Fund

Rockingham County Business and Technology Center received an \$11,000 grant to help develop a Rockingham County revolving loan/investment fund.

Stanly County

Uwharrie Commission

Protect Natural Tourism Resources

The Uwharrie Regional Resources Commission received a \$50,000 grant to assist with the start of the nonprofit's operations. Leaders from Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, Randolph and Stanly counties established the commission to coordinate efforts to preserve and promote the region's natural beauty.

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTERS

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER
OF ROCKY MOUNT, INC.

A form must be completed for EACH activity for which you received funds during your fiscal year from NC Rural Economic Development Center.

>\$25,000 but <\$500,000 A certification, a financial accounting of the State funds received, used, or expended, and a description of the activities and accomplishments undertaken by the grant recipient must be completed by grantees that receive at least \$25,000 but not more than \$500,000 for each program.

>\$500,000 A certification, an audit including schedule of awards, and a description of the activities and accomplishments undertaken for each program by the grant recipient must be completed by grantees that receive \$500,000 or more.

Grantee Name:	Opportunities Industrialization Center of Rocky Mount, Inc
Grantee Tax ID #	56-0946196
Program Name:	Rural Center
Rural Center Grant Number:	Employment, Health Care and Training Support Services
Grantee's Fiscal Year End: (mm/dd/yyyy)	June 30, 2012
Date of This Report:	July 17, 2012
Preparer of This Report:	Clara H Knight

In compliance with the requirements of G.S. 143-6.2, *Use of State Funds by Non-State Entities*, (repealed June 30, 2007) and G.S. 143C-6-23, *State grants funds: administration, oversight and reporting requirements*, (effective July 1, 2007), the following is a description of activities and accomplishments undertaken by our organization using the provided state funding: Complete this report for each different program funded.

1. What were the original goals and expectations for the activity supported by this grant?

To provide comprehensive education, training, business development, health outreach, primary care and program support services that will enable economically disadvantaged persons of all races and backgrounds to become self-sufficient and to produce a better quality of life for all in the greater Rocky Mount area.

2. If applicable, how have those goals and expectations been revised or refined during the course of the project?

NA

3. What has the activity accomplished with these grant funds? (Please include specific information including facts and statistics to support conclusions and judgments about the activity's impact.)

OIC supported the economically disadvantaged by providing basic education, job training and employment services. OIC had over 40 students to graduate and receive their GED, Provided counseling, Soft Skill Training and Work Maturity to 234 students and provided over 500 nutritious lunches to students participated in programs. OIC provided enhance tutorial service to 119 high school students and 124 in middle school students and saved 2025 school days. OIC had over 15,000 encounters at the Family Medical Center seeking primary care and educated over 4,000 and provided testing and counseling to over 1,500. We also conducted over 38,000 screenings that included screenings for HIV/STDs, Breast Cancer, Prostate Cancer, Blood Pressure Checks, Diabetes, etc. OIC held over 70 classes and workshops combined.

4. If the activity is a continuing one, briefly summarize future plans and funding prospects.

We will continue providing services for these individuals through this grant (as long as we are able to receive funds) and through other grant/foundation sponsored activities.

If there are any questions, please contact Mary Jane Dunn @919-250-4314 or mdunn@ncruralcenter.org

Mail to: Mary Jane Dunn, NC Rural Economic Development Center, 4021 Carya Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610

Fax to: Mary Jane Dunn, NC Rural Economic Development Center at 919-250-4325

Email to: Mary Jane Dunn @ ncruralcenter.org

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER
OF WILSON, INC.

Instructions:

>\$25,000 but <\$500,000 A certification, a financial accounting of the State funds received, used, or expended, and a description of the activities and accomplishments undertaken by the grant recipient must be completed by grantees that receive at least \$25,000 but not more than \$500,000 for each program. The completed forms should be submitted to the funding agency.

>\$500,000 A certification, an audit including schedule of awards, and a description of the activities and accomplishments undertaken for each program by the grant recipient must be completed by grantees that receive \$500,000 or more. The completed forms and audit should be submitted to both the granting agency and the Office of the State Auditor, 20601 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-0601, Attn. Grants Reporting.

Grantee Name:	Opportunities Industrialization Center of Wilson, Inc. (OIC)
Grantee Tax ID #	#56-1100476
Program Name:	NC Rural Economic Development Center
Project/Activity Title:	OIC Rural Center Project (Legislative Appropriation)
Grantee's Fiscal Year End: (mmddyyyy)	June 30, 2012
Date of This Report:	July 13, 2012
Preparer of This Report:	Patricia Fitch

In compliance with the requirements of G.S. 143-6.2, *Use of State Funds by Non-State Entities*, (repealed June 30, 2007) and G.S. 143C-6-23, *State grant funds: administration, oversight and reporting requirements*, (effective July 1, 2007), the following is a description of activities and accomplishments undertaken by our organization using the provided state funding: Complete this report for each different program funded.

1. What were the original goals and expectations for the activity supported by this grant?

The goals were:

- a) to train **70** unemployed participants and to place **47** into employment;
- b) to provide food to **6,623** households and,
- c) to provide free health screenings to **1,300** people.

2. If applicable, how have those goals and expectations been revised or refined during the course of the project?

None

3. What has the activity accomplished with these grant funds? Please include specific information including facts and statistics to support conclusions and judgments about the activity's impact.

- Recruited, enrolled, trained and counseled **193** unemployed and underemployed participants after which employment and careers were secured for **77** of them earning an average hourly wage of \$10.52. Ninety-one businesses were served, Eighty-six jobs created and leveraging of funding was in the amount of \$218, 000.00.
- Through NCDA Commodity Food Distributions and the OIC/A&P Food Pantry **6,654** households comprised of **16,987** people received food and nutrition items they would have lacked but were in need of.
- Free health screens for diabetes, hypertension, syphilis, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases were provided to **1,269** individuals for a total of **5,695** health screens. Testing took place during food distributions, in migrant and minority neighborhoods, on street corners and community festivals.

4. If the activity is a continuing one, briefly summarize future plans and funding prospects.

This activity is expected to continue with the continued generous support of the NC General Assembly and as long as local economic conditions and hardships continue which has resulted in more people than ever seeking these services.

If there are any questions, please contact the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor:
Leigh Ann Kerr @ (919) 807-7535 or
Harriet Abraham @ (919) 807-7673.

ASHEVILLE BUNCOMBE COUNTY
CHRISTIAN MINISTRY, INC.

Program Activities and Accomplishments Report

A form must be completed for EACH activity for which you received funds during your fiscal year from NC Rural Economic Development Center.

>\$25,000 but <\$500,000 A certification, a financial accounting of the State funds received, used, or expended, and a description of the activities and accomplishments undertaken by the grant recipient must be completed by grantees that receive at least \$25,000 but not more than \$500,000 for each program.

>\$500,000 A certification, an audit including schedule of awards, and a description of the activities and accomplishments undertaken for each program by the grant recipient must be completed by grantees that receive \$500,000 or more.

Grantee Name:	Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry, Inc.
Grantee Tax ID #	56-0945001
Program Name:	Opportunities Industrialization Centers (OIC) – The Rural Center
Rural Center Grant Number:	2012-008-60103-102
Grantee's Fiscal Year End: (mm/dd/yyyy)	12/31/2011
Date of This Report:	6/8/12
Preparer of This Report:	Rev. Scott Rogers

In compliance with the requirements of G.S. 143-6.2, *Use of State Funds by Non-State Entities*, (repealed June 30, 2007) and G.S. 143C-6-23, *State grants funds: administration, oversight and reporting requirements*, (effective July 1, 2007), the following is a description of activities and accomplishments undertaken by our organization using the provided state funding: Complete this report for each different program funded.

1. What were the original goals and expectations for the activity supported by this grant?
 Within our organization, the major goal of the OIC Program is to provide employment and training opportunities to homeless women which will allow them to successfully reintegrate back into our community. We committed to provide work preparedness and training for 114 homeless women and with job placement exceeding 70%.

Program Activities and Accomplishments Report

2. If applicable, how have those goals and expectations been revised or refined during the course of the project?

Unchanged.

3. What has the activity accomplished with these grant funds? (Please include specific information including facts and statistics to support conclusions and judgments about the activity's impact.)

From January through December 2011 we provided training to 114 women and placed 82 into employment for a job placement rate of 71%. We provided life-skills training to 111 persons. We assisted 29 in obtaining public assistance, mostly for permanent disability (SSI/SSDI) that allowed them to enter family care homes. To support reintegration into the community and the workplace, we assisted women in re-establishing credit, debt reduction and opening savings accounts. These 82 women were placed in jobs with an average pay rate of \$10.31 per hour which on a full-time basis generates a combined payroll of \$1,754,500.

4. If the activity is a continuing one, briefly summarize future plans and funding prospects.

Because ABCCM does not charge any fee for its transitional housing, this funding is essential to sustain our training and job placement rate by providing professional certified training, case management, peer to peer mentors and community allies. All activities will continue as planned for the upcoming year.

If there are any questions, please contact Mary Jane Dunn @919-250-4314 or mdunn@ncruralcenter.org

Mail to: Mary Jane Dunn, NC Rural Economic Development Center, 4021 Cary Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610

Fax to: Mary Jane Dunn, NC Rural Economic Development Center at 919-250-4325

Email to: Mary Jane Dunn @ ncruralcenter.org

WELFARE REFORM LIAISON PROJECT, INC.
OIC – COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Welfare Reform Liaison Project, Inc., OIC – CAA
General Assembly Program Evaluation Division Report
July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012

1. Unduplicated count of program participants served in Fiscal Year 2011-- 12.
301

2. Services for Individuals

Category	Description of Services	Number of people served
Skill development and training	1/ Provide core level employability skills training, followed by targeted skills training in 6 different training tracks (warehousing and process, video production, digital imaging, materials recycling, hospitality services and personal care assistants)	275
	2/ Work with developmentally disabled individuals in a partnership arrangement with specialized training agencies	36
Employment services (including but not limited to job matching, placement, career planning, labor market information, job referrals, and counseling)	Employability training includes job search skills course and resume development activities. WRLP utilizes a job developer, as well as other staff, to identify potential employers and prepare clients for job interviews. A Next Step employment support group meets once a week to share leads and provide counseling	139
Subsidized employment	Not Applicable	
Supportive services to reduce employment barriers (including, but not limited to transportation, child care, medical care, and equipment)	Provides bus passes and gas cards, as well as assist in purchasing specialized items, such as protective clothing or tools related to individual employment opportunities.	Services Provided – 1,569
Other services for individuals	N/A	

Services for Businesses

Category	Description of Services	Number of businesses served
Employment services (including but not limited to job matching, job posting, and labor market information)	Assists business in screening people trained by the program for their employment opportunities.	5
Training programs	Conducted joint training in the areas of hospitality services, personal care assistants, digital imaging and materials recycling. Training included preparation of training materials, instructors (in digital imaging area),	4

	facilities (in digital imaging, video production, personal care assistants and materials recycling) and support services.	
Subsidized employment	N/A	
Other services for businesses	N/A	

Coordination with Other Workforce Programs

Name of Program	Description of Coordination
Employment Training	Provide staffing assistance to the High Point Joblinks Center; Serve on the JobLinks Leadership Team and co-chair the Joblinks Employer Relations Committee

Other Workforce Services or Activities

Category	Description of Services	Number Served (please specify business or individual)
Other	N/A	

1. Workforce Development Services Volunteers

Welfare Reform Liaison Project (WRLP) extensively utilizes training resources provided by other agencies and corporations at no cost to WRLP. Instructors are provided by Guilford Technical Community College, Quaintence Weaver Hospitality Services and RHA Howell in Level 2 training. However, these instructors are being paid by the partner agency and are not considered a volunteer by WRLP.

2. Performance Measures

- # of Training Sessions -- 5 sessions of 18 weeks (Sessions overlap after first 6 weeks)
- # of participants who received services – 275
- # of participants completing program – 139. Successful completion consists of completing training or obtaining employment if this occurred prior to completing training.
- # of jobs obtained – 99 (93 obtained initial employment and 6 obtained better/full time employment if employed part-time)
- Average Wage -- \$9.09
- # of Referrals – 32

Organizational Characteristics

3. Program Organization Chart

An organizational chart, by program, is attached. The Employment Training programs are identified in the first of the four program-related columns and their interaction with other programs are noted in the appropriate column.

4. Workforce development services provided through a local entity or regional office

All activities are conducted by WRLP or through partnerships managed by WRLP and are noted above.

5. How program interacts with other workforce development programs either within your agency or in another agency (e.g., resource sharing, shared advertising, MOUs).

WRLP has conducted joint training programs with the local Workforce Investment Boards in the past, the most recent being construction training, which was completed in September 2010. WRLP served as the primary training contractor, while WIB recruited program participants and provided supportive services.

WRLP has MOUs with 13 agencies that provide a workforce development training. WRLP provides training to clients of these agencies, while the agency provides recruitment assistance and supportive services.

WRLP is also an active member of the Joblinks Center. The Vice President of Operations serves on the Joblinks Leadership Committee and co-chairs its Employer Relations Committee.

Amount Leveraged: \$1,358,859. This includes other government grants, grants from private foundations, private donations; income earned through partnership projects and income earned through other WRLP activities.

Number of business served: 3. This service is primarily provided through screening employment training students who match business hiring requirements. One materials recycling company and two digital imaging related employers utilize WRLP as the primary source of new employee screening and training.

Number of jobs created: 5. These jobs are in the video production area and are small entrepreneurs who receive assistance through equipment sharing and consultation.