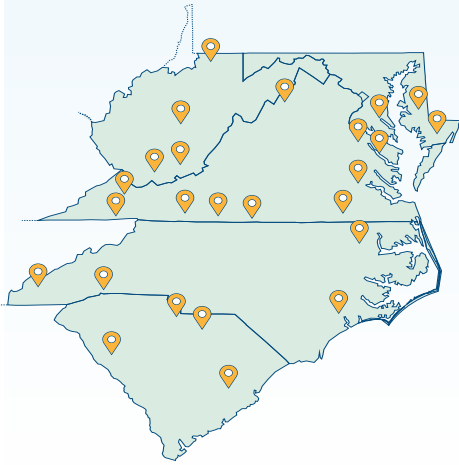




RURAL INVESTMENT COLLABORATIVE™
Small towns, big opportunities.™

2025 Community Investment Training Participants



The Richmond Fed and rural stakeholders are helping communities achieve economic resilience and prosperity through the Rural Investment Collaborative™.

The Collaborative's Community Investment Training program provides 25 rural leaders with 16 weeks of information and guidance on how to prepare project proposals that succeed in securing funding for their small towns and rural areas.

**The Richmond Fed does not fund or otherwise award grants, participate in the selection of grantees or selection of communities receiving training or technical assistance.*



Richmond • Baltimore • Charlotte
Strengthening the economy and our communities™

Maryland



Aten Cesante "A.C." Alrey
Public Affairs & Rural/Urban Development Consultant
Union Lodge #33, Prince Hall Masonic Lodge
Somerset County, Maryland



Keith Cornish
President
Maces Lane Community Center
Dorchester, Maryland



Martin Proulx
Value Added Agricultural Specialist
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Southern Maryland, Maryland

North Carolina



Robin Payne
Director, Destination Bertie
Bertie County Government
Bertie County, North Carolina



Sara Coplai
Partnership Officer
WNC Bridge Foundation
Graham County, North Carolina



Stacey Knox
Chief Growth Officer
One Place
Onslow County, North Carolina



Toni Thayer
Resource Development Manager
Transylvania Habitat for Humanity
Transylvania County, North Carolina

West Virginia



Ansel Ponder
Brand Strategist & Co-Founder
Blue Appalachia
Mercer County, West Virginia



Peter S. Corum
Founder
SEE Appalachia, LLC
Shepherdstown, West Virginia



James Birt
Founder/President/CEO
Housed-Up, Inc.
Fayette County, West Virginia



Rose Wilson
Member
BRW Real Estate LLC
Harrison County, West Virginia

South Carolina



Emma DeVenny
Communications Director
Arras Foundation
Lancaster County, South Carolina



Kenneth Harvin
Rural Program Director
South Carolina Association
Community Economic Development
Clarendon County, South Carolina

Virginia



Jenna French
Director of Tourism & Economic Development
Shenandoah County
Shenandoah County, Virginia



John Bateman
Economic Development Director & Assistant County Administrator
County of Lancaster
Lancaster County, Virginia



Karl Heck
President & CEO
Franklin Southampton Economic Development, Inc.
City of Franklin and Southampton County, Virginia



Kyra Cook
Director of Special Projects
Colonial Behavioral Health
James City County, Virginia



Linda Couch
Mayor
Town of Cleveland
Russell County, Virginia



Michael McGirr
Co-Founder
VI Forward
Bristol County, Virginia



Rebecca Adcock
Executive Director
Patrick County Chamber of Commerce
Patrick County, Virginia



Sean Campbell
Housing Program Director
West Piedmont Planning District Commission
Martinsville, Virginia



Wendi Everson
Executive Director
Danville Neighborhood Development Corporation
Danville, Virginia



Paola Gutiérrez
Director of External Engagement
South Carolina Office of Rural Health
Chester County, South Carolina



Teresa Goodman
Executive Director
Community Initiatives, Inc.
Greenwood County, South Carolina