

# CHAMBERS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year has been one of progress, resilience, and opportunity for Chambers County. Guided by a shared vision of growth and prosperity, we have worked hand-in-hand with local businesses, community leaders, and regional partners to strengthen our economy, attract new investment, and create pathways for growth.

In addition to the Chambers County Development Authority's charge to bring quality jobs through the pursuit of industrial and commercial projects, we set priorities in the areas of infrastructure stabilization and growth, residential development, entrepreneurship, existing industry support, and leadership development for 2025. As we reflect back, I can say with confidence that we made significant advancement in each of those areas, each of which will have meaningful immediate and long-term impact on our county.

Now, as we move forward to 2026, we look to continue to shape the economic prosperity of Chambers County by addressing our challenges, building on our successes, and fostering an environment where businesses can thrive, residents can prosper, and our county can continue to grow as a hub of opportunity.

- Chris Busby, Executive Director



### Population:

33,920

### Median Household Income:

\$53,010

### 2025 Investment:

\$4,943,000

### 2025 Job Creation:

30



Chambers County  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
STRENGTH WOVEN IN

### Labor Force Participation Rate

- Chambers County: 65.7% (4<sup>th</sup> highest in the state, highest among rural counties in Alabama)
- National Rate: 62.3%
- Alabama Rate: 58.0%

Source: University of Alabama

## PROJECTS & EXPANSIONS

- **MR6 Tech Services** announced that it will bring an investment of \$1.5 million along with the creation of 15-20 new jobs to Chambers County (Huguley).
- **Chambers Troup Group LLC** completed an expansion that brought an investment of \$14.5 million, 65,000 additional sqft., and 80 new jobs.
- **AJIN USA** announced an expansion that will bring an investment of \$3.4 million and 15 new jobs.
- **King's Way Senior Housing** had a groundbreaking ceremony. This project will bring an investment of \$14 million.
- **Haywood Forest Products** had a groundbreaking ceremony for their LaFayette plant. They will have 25 full time employees and bring an investment of \$2.1 million.
- **Village Square Shopping Center** had a grand opening ceremony for the new tenants, Marshalls, Five Below, Petsense, and Express Oil.
- In 2025, the Chambers County Development Authority worked **27 active projects**, 19 of those being new.



- The CCDA has conducted **Quarterly HR and Bi-Annual Plant Manager Roundtables** where Chambers County industry leaders meet to discuss business in the area as well as participate in educational presentations.
- **Education initiatives** led by the Chambers County Development Authority in the local school systems include the Independent Life Skills Program, Etiquette Luncheons, Career Fairs and Expos, Career Tech Advisory Committees, and participation in the Amazing Shake Program.
- The CCDA secured **SEEDS funding** in the amount of \$204,500 for property improvements in the Cusseta Industrial Park.
- The CCDA secured many **grants** that supported community events and non-profits such as the Greater Valley Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom, The Valley Local LLC, LaFayette Main Street, the City of Valley's Merry-Go-Round, and Valley Farmer's Market.
- Over \$4,000,000 in **federal appropriations** approved for Chambers County for Infrastructure and Public Safety projects.
- Over the past year, the **Lanett Regional Airport** has made significant progress, with the taxiway expansion project underway, hangar pads completed and multiple hangar developments in negotiation, and the Jet-A Fuel Farm project scheduled for completion in 2026, which will generate substantial new revenue for the City through fuel sales.
- We held our **Annual Existing Industry Luncheon** on May 15<sup>th</sup>, awarding Chris Clark Grading and Paving the *Valerie Gray Manufacturer of the Year Award*.
- Chambers County has seen substantial **residential growth** in 2025 with the announcement of construction on subdivisions such as Crowne Homes, Holland Homes, 30<sup>th</sup> Street Development, and many more. The City of Valley currently has 600 new homes planned for construction.



## LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

- **Leadership Chambers County**, led by the CCDA, completed its inaugural year in 2025. 15 participants went through this program and 15+ local businesses were supported throughout the year-long leadership program. Leadership Chambers County received the Association of County Commissioners of Alabama "Efficiency and Innovation in County Government Award," the Alabama Power Point-of-Light Grant, and the Valley United Fund Grant.
- **Chambers County Leadership & Governance Institute** is a project brought to the CCDA by the Commission, and will kick off in early 2026. This will consist of a day of training and education for our Chambers County elected officials and leaders.
- The CCDA conducted **Economic Development Training** for all Chambers County newly-elected municipal officials in December. We're excited to collaborate with our leaders as we continue working together to strengthen our communities and keep Chambers County moving forward.
- Executive Director, Chris Busby, was selected for **Leadership Alabama, Inc. Class XXXV**.