



GEORGIA'S
RURAL CENTER

Powered by Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

ANNUAL REPORT

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CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF WORK FOR RURAL GEORGIA



Georgia's Rural Center (Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation) exists to build healthy, vibrant rural Georgia communities with managed support and collaborative partnerships.

OUR PRINCIPLES



REDISCOVER

all that is unique and extraordinary in the state's less populated areas



RECREATE

ideas working in rural Georgia to advance other communities throughout the state



RECONNECT

all Georgians to the vital role that rural people and places play in statewide success



REINVEST

in small towns and rural communities through internships and special projects

OUR WORK



MANAGEMENT

project management that results in completed projects benefiting rural communities



ADVOCACY

recommend policy change and/or implementation to benefit rural Georgia



DEVELOPMENT

create a portfolio of completed projects to share with other rural communities



COMMUNICATION

share the stories of rural Georgia and their impacts to the entire state



NETWORKING

establish relationships within rural communities to aid in advocacy and development of policy and prospective projects

WORKING FOR AND IN RURAL GEORGIA

GEORGIA-GROWN AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

IMPACT: STATEWIDE

Collaborated with the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture, the Georgia Grown, and Magnolia Loom to create a re-imagined spotlight section featuring cotton in the Georgia Grown Building during the 2023 Georgia National Fair. Project highlights the potential to re-shore the cotton textile industry to Georgia.

TREE CENTER

IMPACT: STATEWIDE

An educational program and facility to educate all stakeholders about the use of novel and innovative forest products in construction. Working with ABAC Foundation, ABAC, Georgia Forestry Commission, Georgia Forestry Association, and forest products industry to develop a plan and construct a forest products innovation education center.

CODE RED GUARD SCHOOL SECURITY

IMPACT: STATEWIDE

Engaged with CODE RED GUARD, the Ocilla/Irwin Chamber of Commerce, Irwin Forward, and Irwin County Commission to promote CODE RED GUARD products to Georgia school systems.

HARRIS COUNTY STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

IMPACT: HARRIS COUNTY

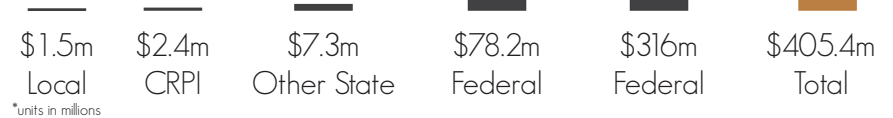
Engaged Harris County Commission, Harris County School System, Harris County Economic Development, and Hamilton/Harris County Chamber of Commerce to develop a county-wide strategic economic development plan.

\$405.4 million

invested in rural Georgia because of Georgia's Rural Center projects.

170

project investment multiplier of money going back into rural communities because of Rural Center projects.

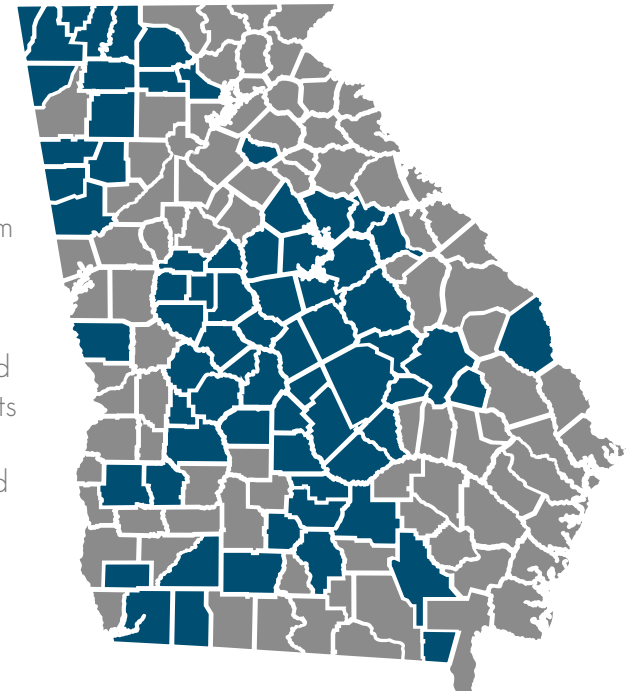


51

projects completed across the state from north to south, east to west.

69 Counties Served by Individual Projects

159 counties served by regional and/or state projects



MORE PROJECTS IN RURAL GEORGIA

- Greater Gilmer Workforce Housing Study
Impact: Gilmer and surrounding area
- Georgia AIM EDA State Match Administration
Impact: Statewide
- Ocilla/Irwin County Industrial Development Authority - 2nd Century Ag
Impact: Irwin and surrounding area
- Waycross-Ware County Development Authority Website
Impact: Ware County
- SOWEGA - Apiculture Education Grant
Impact: SW Georgia
- Feasibility Studies (3) - Georgia Loggers and Paper producers
Impact: Statewide
- Tifton Judicial Circuit Shelter, Inc. (dba Ruth's Cottage and The Patticake House)
Impact: Tift, Irwin, Ben Hill, Berrien
- Lumber City Water Authority
Impact: Telfair
- Sunbelt WiFi Service
Impact: Statewide
- Terrell County Industrial Park Improvements
Impact: Terrell County



To learn about past projects, visit our website to view past annual reports.



Photo by Jennifer Smith



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Georgia's Rural Center



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