Franklin Southampton Economic Development, Inc.

Partnering Tradition with Progress

Four Main Areas of Focus

- **Economic Development**
- > Small Business Development
- **Tourism**
- Entrepreneurship







What Is A Business Incubator?



What Is A Business Incubator?

- Facility that houses support staff and programs that nurture startup and expanding businesses.
- Designed to assist these businesses during their first few years of operation.
- Offers reduced rate rent to help during the startup period when these businesses are cash poor.

History

- **1907**
 - Manufactured Buggies
- **1916**
 - Manufactured Screen Doors
- ▶ 1950's
 - ► Peanut Storage/Warehouse
- **1985**
 - Acquired By The City of Franklin
- 1999
 - Hurricane Floyd
- **>** 2005
 - Grand Opening Celebration
- **>** 2011
 - Build Out Complete





Where are we now?

- **>** 2017
 - ► New Name, Logo and Tagline
 - ► 84% Occupancy
 - ► 26 Clients
- /FranklinBusinessCenterVA/



Services/Amenities

- ► Internet Service
- Shared Office Equipment
- On Site Business Mentor
- Access to Conference Rooms
- Central Mail Handling
- SBDC Business Mentor
- Custodial Services
- Professional Development Workshops
- Networking Opportunities

Virtual Office Program

- ► Traditional Application Process
- ► Fully Furnished Office
- ► Flat Monthly Fee
- ► Flexible Lease Term
- Access to Conference Rooms and Building Amenities

Application Process

- Application Packet
 - Application
 - **Business Plan**
 - Professional References
- Consultation with Small Business Development Center
- Reviewed by Business Center Advisory Board

Advisory Board Members

- City and County Officials
- Chamber of Commerce
- Attorney
- Accountant
- Insurance Agent
- Banker
- Entrepreneur
- Downtown Organization

What is the return?

- ► Fosters Entrepreneurial Spirit
 - Coworking Space
 - ► Reverse Mentoring
 - ► Retention of Local Entrepreneurs
- Regional Asset
- ► Economic Impact
 - ► The Proof is in the Numbers

Economic Impact

Number of Employees: Full Time 119
Part Time 49*

 Average Salary (FT employees only):
 \$49,050.74

 Client Rent Paid to Franklin:
 \$138,413.73*

 Taxes Paid to Franklin:
 \$33,922.57

 Taxes Paid to Virginia
 \$550,514.74

 Taxes Paid to IRS:
 \$2,508,248.86

 Total Business Profits:
 \$1,758,485.44

Signed Contracts: \$12,400,000.00 Pending Contracts: \$7,318,000.00

Six new clients moved into the Franklin Business Center in 2015.

^{*920} temp jobs created through On Time Staffing

^{*}Budgeted for \$ 120,000.00

Testimonial

- "It has been more than just an office or place to work, the Franklin Business Center has been an integral part of my business succeeding. Being able to start in a small office and increase office space as the business grew was critical to our ability to grow the business."
 - Jim Strozier, CEO Highground Services

Client Success Story

- ► Highground Services
 - > Started with four employees and has grown to employ sixty-five people full-time.
 - ➤ Currently leases the entire first floor of the building (10,000 sq ft) and has a second office in a neighboring community.
 - ► Has acquired an abandoned building in the Historic Downtown area and will move into their new office by the beginning of 2017.

Thank you!

For more information:
Amanda C. Jarratt
ajarratt@franklinsouthamptonva.com
www.fsediva.com