



2025 - 2026

Annual Report

Welcome!

Dear Chamber Members and Community Partners,

The 2025–2026 year was one of meaningful progress, increased regional collaboration, and renewed investment in the future of northeastern Pennsylvania. Across every division, The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce remained focused on strengthening our regional economy, supporting businesses, and developing the people and partnerships that help our communities thrive.

Throughout the year, we expanded opportunities for members to connect, grow, and share their stories. We advanced business attraction and entrepreneurship, strengthened workforce and leadership development, supported small businesses, and continued advocating for the issues that matter most to our members and the region. We also invested in new programs, technology and strategic initiatives that will position The Chamber to serve our business community well into the future.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report reflect the dedication of our members, volunteers, Board of Directors, staff, and community partners. We are grateful for your continued involvement and confidence in The Chamber. Together, we are building a stronger, more connected, and more prosperous northeastern Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Marianne Gilmartin, Esq.
Chair, Chamber Board of
Directors

Bob Durkin
President
The Greater Scranton
Chamber of Commerce





Staff

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Vice President of Membership & Marketing

Lisa Bandru

Finance Assistant

Tina Bechaver

Membership & Events Assistant

Amanda Byron

Executive Assistant to the President

AJ Cimahosky

Business Development Manager

James Coleman

Vice President of Internal Administration

Mark Donlin

Maintenance & Facilities Specialist

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President

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Marla Gambucci

Communications Manager

Emilie Gebert

Workforce & Leadership Assistant

Kristin Hudspeth

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Kira Loomis

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Vice President of Business & Workforce Development

John Maldonato

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IGNITE Program Manager

Juliette Meyers

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Nicole Morristell

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Lisa Olenick

Business Development Assistant

Emily Pettinato

Workforce Development Manager

Mari Potis

Director of Membership & Events

Taryn Talacka

Director of Marketing & Communications

Alicia Tompkins

Small Business & Community Development Specialist

Kyle Walsh

Staff Accountant

Aaron Whitney

Director of Facilities & Asset Management

Sam Zavada

IGNITE Program Specialist and Grant Writer



Membership and Events

members

1,402

new members

265

influencers

35



Young Professionals Network

committee
members

22

events

2

attendees

200



events
29

attendees
3,550



ribbon cuttings
24



Scranton Plan 3.0

Founded in 1945 as a blueprint for economic revitalization, The Scranton Plan has united business and community leaders for 80 years to drive **investment, job creation, and opportunity**. In 1981, The Scranton Plan 2.0 was designated as the lead economic development marketing agency for Lackawanna County.

	 GOAL 1: Jobs & Workforce	 GOAL 2: Economic Investment	 GOAL 3: Community Development	 Total Budget Funding Needed
Annual Budget	\$200,000	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$400,000
5-Year Budget	\$1,000,000	\$750,000	\$250,000	\$2,000,000
% of Total	50%	38%	12%	100%

The Scranton Plan 3.0 is a bold, forward-thinking strategy that builds on our history of success by tackling today's challenges and seizing new opportunities. This next phase addresses key priorities including workforce development, business recruitment, site readiness, and regional marketing, ensuring the Greater Scranton region remains competitive in today's economy.

GOAL 1:

JOBS & WORKFORCE
(ATTRACT, RETAIN AND ALIGN TALENT)
ROLE: LEADER/CONVENER

GOAL 2:

ECONOMIC INVESTMENT
(DRIVE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT THROUGH STRATEGIC MARKETING)
ROLE: LEADER

GOAL 3:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(DIRECT STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY PLANNING)
ROLE: CONVENER/CATALYST

A major strategic priority will be the **expansion of workforce initiatives** designed to meet rapidly evolving employer demands while proactively preparing a skilled, future-ready talent pipeline.



Workforce Development

Chamber job board postings

325

Workforce Summit

business exhibitors

47

high school students

276

Job Shadow Day

business hosts

27

students

380

Educator in the Workplace

participants

34

school districts

10

State of the Workforce

attendees

88





Leadership Development

leadership development
programs

5

Core Program class
service projects

4

graduates

150

sessions

33

hours of leadership and
community development
training

168

total community investment, project contributions, and
fundraising efforts

\$178,000





Business Development

projects

23

business development
outreach meetings

114

TekRidge buildout

3 bays

local developer
meetings

5

leased office and light industrial space

13,000 sq ft

- Assumed full management responsibilities for the **Carbondale Technology Transfer Center**
- Conducted an economic development education tour of **Loudon County, Virginia**
- Assisted with the planning and implementation of the **Pennsylvania Economic Development Association** (PEDA) Fall Conference.
- Completed a comprehensive **housing study** in collaboration with



Small Business Finance

loans closed

28

total

\$1.77 million

jobs created
or retained

212

clients

398





Entrepreneurship

IGNITE
applications
7

new tenants
6

jobs created
or retained
109

TechCelerator and
FoodCelerator
participating
businesses
12





Government Affairs

Capital Conversations Sessions 2

direct contacts
with government
officials
120+

forums with
government
officials
4

- Engaged in **regional government affairs** programs
- Established organizational and regional **legislative priorities**
- Hosted a **roundtable discussion** on economic development with representatives from the SBA, USDA, Department of Labor, US Department of Health and Human Services and the Environmental Protection Agency
- Partnered with **NEPA Regional Railroad Authority** to promote Scranton to New York City passenger rail corridor
- Worked with public and community partners to assist with the continued operations of **Moses Taylor and Regional Hospital**
- Joined a team of PA Chambers supporting enhanced funding for the **childcare industry**



Communications

unique business
mentions in
Momentum Magazine
508



- Launched new **advertising and communications platforms**
- Engaged Chamber **volunteers, staff and board members** to participate in video communications to promote Chamber and member programs

- Built and launched new Chamber **video production studio**



Organizational Excellence

- Implemented staff **professional development plan**
- Initiated updated Chamber **Strategic Plan**
- Integrated **leasing software** into financial platforms
- Coordinated activities to support **regional Chamber collaboration**
- Implemented a regional Chamber **Travel Program**



— NEW — CHAMBER TRAVEL PROGRAM

In Partnership with



Strategic Plan

- Established **committee**
- Engaged **The Institute for Public Policy**
- Undertook **surveys**

The Institute

Turning Information into Insight

MISSION

Attract, sustain, and grow business throughout northeastern Pennsylvania

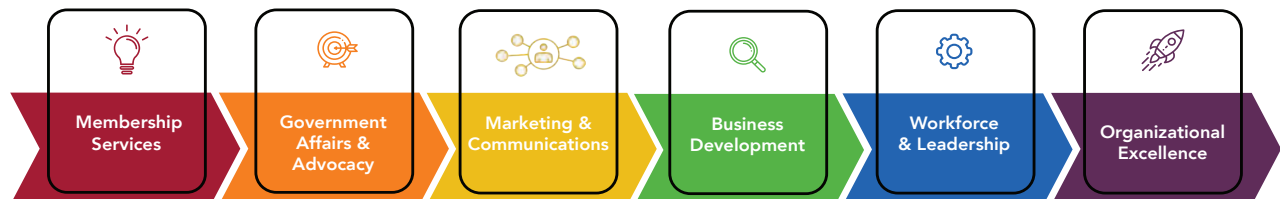
VISION

To be the catalytic leader in business growth for northeastern Pennsylvania by building strategic partnerships, results-driven economic initiatives, and facilitating valuable and inclusive connections for our stakeholders

CORE VALUES

Leadership
Collaboration
Equity
Inclusion
Resourcefulness

STRATEGIC PRIORITY PILLARS



Catalytic Leadership

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Strategic Partnerships

ORGANIZATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

Outcome based objectives that reinforce our strategic priorities





- Mentorship
- Marketing & Training Opportunities
- Affordable Incubator & Coworking Space
- Access to Financing & Investors
- Innovative & Collaborative Networking Environment





Produced by The Greater Scranton Chamber
of Commerce and its divisions.