



OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
Economic Development Corporation

Quarterly Update

Okeechobee Board of County Commissioners

Quarterly Update 2026

Board of Directors



City of
Okeechobee
FLORIDA • Established 1915



SeacoastBank



COMCAST



WALPOLE INC

ECONOMIC
COUNCIL
OF OKEECHOBEE



Gilbert
Family of
Companies

SEC

Sumner Engineering & Consulting, Inc.
Agriculture, Civil, Land & Water Resources



SouthState



Chamber of Commerce
of Okeechobee County



FPL



INDIAN RIVER
STATE COLLEGE

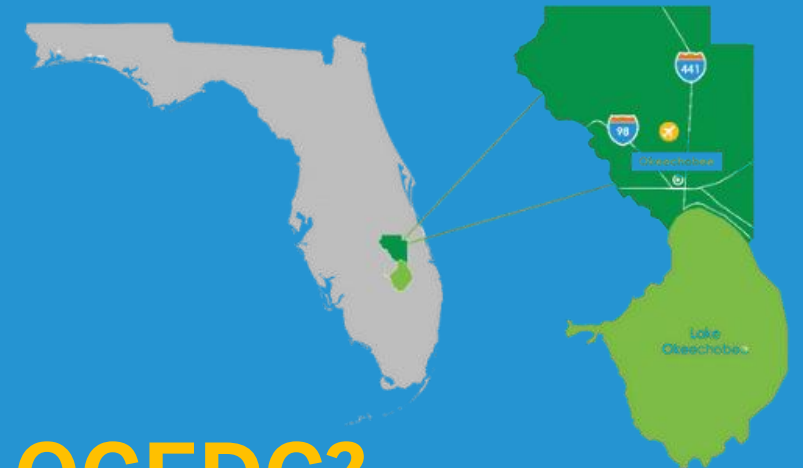


ALTOBELLO
FAMILY

DONOR ADVISED FUND



OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
Economic Development Corporation



What is the PURPOSE of the OCEDC?

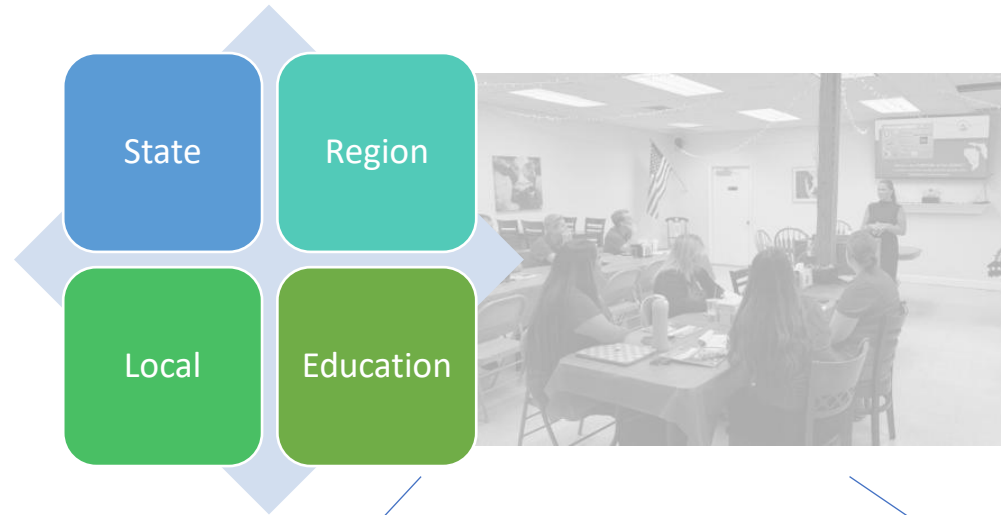
*To enhance and cause quality economic growth of the
Okeechobee County economy.*

2026 Q2 In Review



OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
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Priority #1 - Community Representation by OCEDC



Priority #2 | Business Retention and Expansion

- Community Awareness Presentations
- Culture of Collaboration – Community Service Matrix
- Okeechobee County Airport Commerce Park – Aviation Roundtable
- SpaceFlorida and Florida Makes Partnership

BUSINESS RETENTION

B R E P

& EXPANSION PROGRAM



SPACEFLORIDA
BE WHERE NEW IDEAS TAKE OFF™



culture of collaboration
OKEECHOBEE



Priority #2 BRE | Workforce Development



78 local middle and high school program graduates
29 local partners
Over **\$40,000** in program sponsors





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“Junior Leaders gives students something incredibly valuable before they ever graduate - believe in what's possible. Growing up in a small town, it's easy to think your world is only as big as what you see every day. Programs like this expose students to local leaders, entrepreneurs, and professionals who help expand that vision. When young people can see what's possible, they're much more likely to believe they can create it for themselves and that benefits the entire community.”

Katelyn Rhodes, CEO
Influence Marketing Studios



I think the Okeechobee Junior Leaders Summer Camp is important to expose the students to the many employment opportunities that are available in our community and to expose them to local government and the importance of being involved in your community. - Dowling Watford

OKEECHOBEE JUNIOR LEADERS CAMP



**THANK YOU TO OUR
PROGRAM PARTNERS**

- Children's Services Council of Okeechobee
- Miller's Central Air
- Okeechobee County School District
- Education Foundation of Okeechobee
- Florida Power & Light Company
- Comcast
- HCA Raulerson
- Sumner Engineering
- Walpole Inc
- Kiwanis of Okeechobee
- enfluence Marketing Studio
- Shutters & Gutters Inc
- Wawa Okeechobee
- Wawa Foundation



**Thank you to those who made
Okeechobee Junior Leaders Camp
a reality.**

- Brown Cow Sweetery
- CareerSource Heartland
- City of Okeechobee
- Comcast
- enfluence Marketing Studio
- Florida Power & Light Company
- Florida Forest Service
- Gilbert Has It
- Gladys's Restaurant
- HCA Raulerson Hospital
- Indian River State College
- Judge Wallace
- Miller's Central Air
- Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners
- Okeechobee County Fire Rescue
- Okeechobee County Airport
- Okeechobee County School District
- Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office
- Okeechobee County Parks and Rec
- Okeechobee County Public Works
- Okeechobee County Public Library
- Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition
- Okeechobee Livestock Market
- Seacoast Bank
- South Florida Water Management
- SouthState Bank
- Walpole Inc.
- Waves of Change Mental Health and Wellness Services

Priority #3 | Site Development & Industrial Opportunities



- Assistance to OUA with RIF Grant Application
- Partnered with OVID Solutions – Grant Matrix
- Launch of New Website & Recruitment Tools
- New Community Overview Marketing Collateral
- Enhancing Partnerships at Airport Commerce Park
- Updating Strategic Plan in Early Fall of 2026

Corporation Activity

- **28** Active Prospects/BRE Clients
- Assisting **5** Privately Owned Industrial Parks
- Presentations: **3** Local community presentations and **Chamber of Commerce Okeechobee Leadership Class**
- **FPL Florida 1st Sites – OVID Grant Services Award (continued)**
- **County Airport Commerce Park Roundtable**
- **CareerSource Heartland Board Seat**
- **Opportunity Zone 2.0 submission**
- **Hurricane Readiness Preparedness Partner Coordination Planning Meeting**
- **SpaceFl: Florida Aerospace Partner Workshop Conference**
- **2026 Okeechobee Junior Leadership Camp – 78 graduates**



Q1 2026– Q2 2026 Activity



35

Business
Meetings

1

Site Visit

11

Speaking
Engagements/Events

New Grant
Matrix

27
Active
Projects

27 Active Projects

- Aviation - 5
 - Industrial - 5
 - Manufacturing – 4
 - Commercial – 4
 - Agriculture – 1
-
- 2 Pending RFI's (Cap X: 78m/559 jobs)
-
- Private Industrial Sites – 5
 - Public Industrial Parks – 2

Capital Investment:\$61.8m
Projected Jobs:395





TALK TO US!

Relocations & New Business

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President

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Expansions and Operations

Alex Tijerina

Director of Existing Industry

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