

## Business Resources for Agritourism Farmers

### Institute of Minority Economic Development

114 W. Parrish Street  
Durham, NC 27701  
Phone: (919) 956-8889  
Fax: (919) 688-7668  
Email: [ncimed@interpath.com](mailto:ncimed@interpath.com)  
Website: [www.ncimed.com](http://www.ncimed.com)

Contact: Linda L. Gunn, VP of Administration and Policy

**Mission:** To build and sustain economically vibrant and socially responsible communities through business development among underdeveloped sectors of the population. In fulfilling its mission, the Institute works to provide comprehensive data and information on minority businesses to educate, inform and enhance responsive public and private sector decisions.

### HandMade in America

P.O. Box 2089  
Asheville, NC 28802  
Phone: 828-252-0121  
Fax: 828-252-0388  
Email: [info@handmadeinamerica.org](mailto:info@handmadeinamerica.org)  
Website: [www.handmadeinamerica.org](http://www.handmadeinamerica.org)

**Mission:** To celebrate the hand and the handmade, to nurture the creation of traditional and contemporary craft, to revere and protect our resources and to preserve and enrich the spiritual, cultural, and community life of our region. Strategies focus on creating sustainable economic development to provide business and financial support for craftspeople, to nurture our region's craft culture through public relations and education, and to maintain our rural quality of life.

### Mountain Microenterprise Fund

29 1/2 Page Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801  
Phone: 828-253-2834  
Fax: 828-255-7953  
Email: [info@mtnmicro.org](mailto:info@mtnmicro.org)  
Website: [www.mtnmicro.org/](http://www.mtnmicro.org/)

**Mission:** To provide people throughout western North Carolina with business training, loans, technical assistance and support so they can start or expand a small business.

### North Carolina REAL Enterprises

115 Market Street Suite 320  
Durham, NC 27701  
Phone: 919-688-7325 Fax: 919-682-7621  
Website: [www.ncreal.org/](http://www.ncreal.org/)

**Mission:** To develop entrepreneurial talent through action, learning and fostering the creation of sustainable enterprises throughout North Carolina, with special emphasis on rural communities.

## North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center

4021 Carya Drive            Contact: Elaine Matthews, VP for communications and development  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
Phone: (919) 250-4314  
Fax: (919) 250-4325  
Email: [info@ncruralcenter.org](mailto:info@ncruralcenter.org)  
Website: [www.ncruralcenter.org](http://www.ncruralcenter.org)

**Mission:** To develop, promote, and implement sound economic strategies to improve the quality of life of rural North Carolinians. The center serves the state's 85 rural counties, with a special focus on individuals with low to moderate incomes and communities with limited resources.

### Self-Help

Central NC Region  
301 W. Main Street, PO Box 3619  
Durham, NC 27702-3619  
Phone: 919-956-4400  
Website: [www.self-help.org](http://www.self-help.org)

**Mission:** To help low-wealth families — particularly minorities, women and rural residents — buy homes, build businesses and strengthen community resources.

## Smoky Mountain Development Corporation

100 Industrial Park  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
Phone: 828-452-1967  
Fax: 828-452-1352  
Website: [www.wcu.edu/crd/eda.html](http://www.wcu.edu/crd/eda.html)

**Mission:** A nonprofit economic development corporation organized to create and retain jobs in the region. Operating as a Certified Development Company (CDC), the Smoky Mountain Development Corporation (SMDC) seeks to provide capital to eligible small businesses to finance major fixed assets. SMDC also operates a 17,000 sq. ft. business incubator facility.

### Women's Business Center

North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development  
114 W. Parrish Street  
Durham, NC 27701  
Phone: 919-956-8889  
Fax: 919-688-7668  
Email: [info@ncimed.com](mailto:info@ncimed.com)  
Website: [www.ncimed.com](http://www.ncimed.com)

**Mission:** The Women's Business Center is a partnership program between the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership and the North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development, Inc. The center's mission is to provide training, counseling and technical assistance to aspiring and existing women business owners. The Women's Business Center can empower women with the tools needed to: establish businesses, stabilize their companies, generate sustainable profits, enhance their companies' infrastructure, strategize for future growth, create jobs, and contribute in the growth and economic development of the community.

## Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC)

State Headquarters  
5 West Hargett Street, Suite 600  
Raleigh, NC 27601-1348  
Phone: 919-715-7272  
Email: [info@sbtcdc.org](mailto:info@sbtcdc.org)  
Website: [www.sbtcdc.org](http://www.sbtcdc.org)

## Small Business Center Network Local Sites

North Carolina Community College System  
5003 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-5003  
Phone: 919-733-7051  
Fax: 919-715-5796  
Website: [www.nccs.cc.nc.us/business\\_and\\_industry/sbcmainpage.htm](http://www.nccs.cc.nc.us/business_and_industry/sbcmainpage.htm)

**Mission:** Small Business Centers serve business and entrepreneurs by providing one-on-one entrepreneurial services, resources, and practical, short-term educational programs to help local business men and women start and run a business.

## USDA Office of Rural Development

4405 Bland Road, Suite 260  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
Phone: (919) 873-2000  
Fax: (919) 837-2075  
Website: [www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov)

**Contact:** [John Cooper](#), State Director  
**Type of Organization:** Federal

**Business and Industry Program.** Provides loan guarantees to further business and industrial development in areas outside the boundary of a city of 50,000 or more. Priority is given to applicants for projects in open county, rural communities and towns of 25,000 and smaller. The program provides guarantees to commercial lenders who make credit available to establish or maintain business in rural areas. Loan funds may be used to purchase land, buildings, and equipment, and provide working capital. Priorities are to save existing jobs and create new employment opportunities.

## Good Work

115 Market Street  
Suite 470  
Durham, NC 27701  
Phone: 919-682-8473  
Email: [GWInfo@GoodWork.org](mailto:GWInfo@GoodWork.org)  
Website: [www.goodwork.org](http://www.goodwork.org)

**Mission:** To help people start and expand small businesses.

## NCSU (Raleigh) and NC A&T (Greensboro) Cooperative Extension Service

[www.ces.ncsu.edu](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu)

Check your local phone book for your county extension service office for opportunities in training and education.

## Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Charlie Jackson, Exec. Dir.

859 Nicholson Cove Rd.

Cullowhee NC 28753

828-289-3263

Grants and Farm Information: [www.asapconnections.org](http://www.asapconnections.org)

[info@asapconnections.org](mailto:info@asapconnections.org)

Mission: Assistance with local farm marketing projects

## DOT Highway Signage Office

Susan Kunz and James Hambright

919-662-3078 (Susan) 919-329-7004 (James)

[skunz@dot.nc.state.us](mailto:skunz@dot.nc.state.us)

[jhambright@dot.nc.state.us](mailto:jhambright@dot.nc.state.us)

Office directs the process for Agricultural Highway Tourism Signage, Tourist Oriented Directional Signs and Attraction Logo Signs

## Carolina Farm Stewardship Association

919-542-2402

PO Box 448

Pittsboro NC 27312

[www.carolinafarmstewards.org](http://www.carolinafarmstewards.org)

The goal of the Tobacco Communities Reinvestment Fund is to keep farmers in farming and maintain the economic base of North Carolina's rural communities. The Reinvestment Fund aims to assist farmers and rural communities to develop new sources of agricultural income through provision of cost-share grants.

## Rural Advancement Reinvestment Fund -- [www.rafi.usa](http://www.rafi.usa)

Contact Jason Roehrig at **919-621-0534** or [jason@rafiusa.org](mailto:jason@rafiusa.org) in Pittsboro, NC.

**Producer Grant Awards** of up to **\$10,000** for individuals and **Community Grant Awards** of up to **\$20,000** for collaborative farmer projects.

The Tobacco Communities Reinvestment Fund will make cost-share demonstration grants to farmers, farm organizations, and community groups in

**Alexander, Beaufort, Burke, Caldwell, Caswell, Craven, Cumberland, Davidson, Forsyth, Greene, Guilford, Harnett, Iredell, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, McDowell, Nash, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Wayne, Wilkes, and Wilson** counties.

The purpose of the Reinvestment Fund is to help farmers to develop enterprises that allow them to earn more for their products through innovative production, processing, or marketing approaches. Please contact the RAFI office for deadline information.

This information is designed to help potential agritourism farmers do their research and gather information about developing an agritourism farm. It is published as part of three documents in the series: Starting Your Agritourism Venture, Suggestions for Helping You Start an Agritourism Venture, and Business Resources for Agritourism Farmers, published by the Agritourism Office. All documents are available by request, are online, and can be emailed or mailed.

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NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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