

COVID-19 Inspired Projects

PPE Supply Chain

Early in the pandemic, providers across our country struggled to find adequate sources of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). As it became clear that supplies around the globe were depleted, governments and those on the medical front lines looked to unconventional producers. Many companies, in turn, shifted their production to meet the need.

North Carolina's rich history in textiles and manufacturing, coupled with our technology industry and strong logistics capability, make it a potentially national leader in PPE production. Partnering with EDPNC, the Foundation is securing a supply chain gap analysis through NC State to identify both our strengths and weaknesses to give us a data-driven foundation upon which to build this industry. Armed with these results, North Carolina will be able to market our assets and secure solutions for our gaps to position the state to jumpstart our PPE industry.

NC Workforce Consortium

North Carolina has a decentralized workforce development system with numerous entities involved in training, reskilling, and providing other forms of job assistance. The Chamber Foundation recognized a need to bring the various groups together on a regular basis to share information, partner on specific initiatives, and collectively monitor the disparate workforce needs across the state. The newly created NC Workforce Consortium is led by the Foundation and the NC Community College System and includes partners from NC Works, the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC), the Governor's office, MyFuture NC, and the North Carolina Rural Center, among others. This new collaborative effort enables a holistic approach to align talent development programs with the current and future needs of job creators. By identifying key areas of engagement, all parties can play a transformative role in developing the next generation of talent in our state.

NC COVID-19 Tracking Tool

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused major health and economic impacts in North Carolina and globally. It is imperative that we monitor the relevant data so North Carolina can move from responding to this crisis to recovering from it in order to ensure a resilient and prosperous state in the future. To facilitate this capability, the NC Chamber Foundation launched a new [COVID-19 Tracking Tool](#) in August 2020.

This tracking tool gives North Carolina employers and policy makers a window into the health and economic realities of the state and specific regions. It also assists businesses making key decisions about their operations while following public health recommendations to keep employees, customers and communities safe. COVID-19 case data is updated daily, and economic data is updated regularly. As new information becomes available, we will continue to expand this tool.