

David P. Rumbarger
President/CEO
Community Development Foundation of Tupelo/Lee County, MS

David Rumbarger has over 35 years of economic development/existing industry and chamber of commerce management. He has been involved in economic development at the state and local level and working with natural gas and electric utilities.

Since 2000, David has served as president/CEO of the Community Development Foundation of Tupelo, Mississippi. Under his leadership, Tupelo/Lee County has experienced exceptional growth and diversification. Over the past decade, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Auto Parts Manufacturing Mississippi, Cooper Tire, General Atomics, Grammer, H.M. Richards, and Southern Motion, to name a few, have located to Tupelo/Lee County. These industries help comprise the 135 total projects won during the past ten years generating over 9.3 billion dollars in total capital investment. By choosing to locate or expand in Tupelo/Lee County, these businesses created 7,347 jobs for residents. With these additional jobs over 230 million dollars of new payroll was added to the pockets of Tupelo/Lee County citizens. Recently, David has led is the creation of Lee County's sixth and newest industrial park, The Hive.

The Hive, a 1,000-acre next-generation industrial park will position Lee County to competitively seek advanced manufacturing and technology firms and compete with communities for years to come.

Because of David and his teams' work ***Site Selection Magazine*** has consistently ranked Tupelo/Lee County as a top micropolitan for new and expanding industries, with Tupelo making the top 10 in that ranking 12 times since 2006 for micropolitan areas based on the number projects, capital investment, and job growth. ***Southern Business and Development Magazine*** has ranked Tupelo/Lee County #1 in small markets for the U.S.

Prior to Community Development Foundation, he worked with North Carolina Power & Light and Energen/Alagasco. David also served as a cabinet member in Alabama, working as director of economic and community development, ADECA.

David graduated with a BS from Auburn University, holds a MS in Economic Development from the University of Southern Mississippi and an Advanced Management Certificate from Duke University.

He and his wife Donna live in Tupelo. They have two children and a grandson.