

**FORT WORTH  
CHAMBER★**

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT





2025 was an incredible year for business, and I am proud of the meaningful progress we achieved together in strengthening the Fort Worth business community. As Texas led the way nationally, Fort Worth was its flagship. This past year, Fort Worth continued to lead with a robust energy sector, a growing tech ecosystem, and a strong manufacturing base—drivers that helped propel our city to record growth.

The Chamber held true to its commitment to deliver real value to our members, focused on leadership, engagement, and advocacy. Weekly we brought together business and community leaders to identify challenges, develop solutions, and align resources to create a more competitive business climate for all. From a new city-sponsored Small Business Development Program, in collaboration with the Metropolitan Black Chamber and Hispanic Chamber, to breaking ground on a future regional powerhouse—UTA West—your Chamber is strengthening the community.

We also advanced our efforts in business retention and expansion, ensuring that companies proud to call Fort Worth home have the support they need to grow and succeed. None of this progress would be possible without the dedication of our investors, staff, board members, and volunteers.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping drive the momentum that keeps Fort Worth strong, competitive, and thriving.

**BRIAN C. NEWBY, 2025 BOARD CHAIRMAN  
MANAGING PARTNER, CANTEY HANGER LLP**

# YOUR CHAMBER IS THE LEADING VOICE OF BUSINESS IN ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING CITIES IN THE NATION

## OUR VISION

Drive the Fort Worth region to be the most thriving, inviting community for all.

## OUR MISSION

Bring the Fort Worth region together to identify issues, solve problems and help align resources resulting in a stronger business climate and greater economic prosperity for all.

**1.2K+ BUSINESSES**

are a part of our thriving FWC business community.

**180+ FWC VOLUNTEERS**

advocate, promote, and work alongside the FWC to support our business community.

**72% ENGAGEMENT**

among members that participate in FWC programming.

## LEAD

The Fort Worth Chamber sets the standard for business excellence, guiding the Fort Worth community with visionary leadership.

## ENGAGE

The Fort Worth Chamber delivers exceptional member experiences, fostering a vibrant and engaged business network.

## ADVOCATE

The Fort Worth Chamber stands as fierce advocates for an informed, collaborative, and vibrant business environment.



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FORT WORTH CHAMBER

THE PLAYBOOK

TOGETHER, WE MEAN BUSINESS

MATTIE PARKER'S  
LIFE OF THE CITY:  
COME TO LIFE IN FORT WORTH

FWC

THE CLAUDIA

FORT WORTH CHAMBER



# BUSINESS ADVOCACY

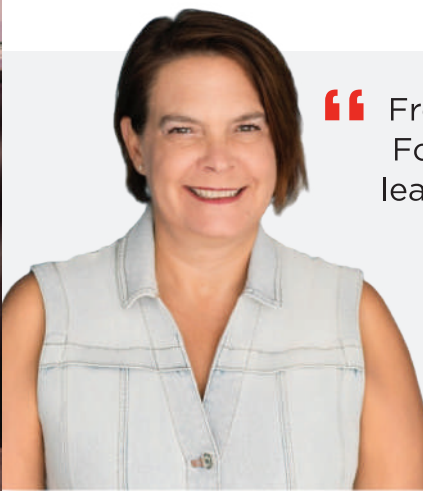
The Fort Worth Chamber’s Business Retention & Expansion efforts made a significant impact this year by strengthening ties with local businesses, addressing shared business challenges, and connecting companies with vital resources that promote growth and prosperity. Through initiatives like the Business Champions program, workforce partnerships, business walks, and practical tools like the Homelessness Toolkit and SizeUp platform, the Chamber supported companies with information, advocacy, and collaboration opportunities—driving business growth and reinforcing Fort Worth’s thriving economy.



OVER  
**1.1K+**   
TOTAL HOMELESSNESS  
TOOL-KIT DOWNLOADS

CELEBRATED  
**600+**   
BUSINESSES IN  
SMALL BUSINESS  
APPRECIATION WALK

ASSISTED  
**21**   
COMPANIES WITH  
BUSINESS CLIMATE  
RELATED CHALLENGES



“ From the moment we announced our expansion into Fort Worth, the Fort Worth Chamber was there to learn what our priorities were, connect us with key community stakeholders, help us navigate regulations, and identify resources that helped us establish ourselves quickly. ”

**HOLLY SCHROEDER, VP - EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, DRINKPAK**

# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The Fort Worth Chamber, through the Governmental Affairs Committee, drives pro-business policies that support Fort Worth's competitiveness and quality of life at the local, state, and federal level. In 2025, the Chamber advocated for legislation that advanced critical investments in infrastructure, workforce readiness, education, and the overall prosperity of the Texas economy.

During the 89th legislative session, the Chamber mobilized more than 150 local leaders for "Tarrant County Days" to advocate at the State Capitol on a range of legislation with direct and positive impact on Fort Worth's economic future.

## KEY WINS FROM THE 89TH SESSION:

- ★ Historic Investments in Water Infrastructure
- ★ Increased the Business Personal Property Tax Exemption
- ★ Renewed and Expanded the R&D Tax Credit
- ★ Increased Public Education Funding
- ★ Expanded Film Incentives
- ★ Designation of Fort Worth as the "Aviation and Defense Capital of Texas"

TRACKED  
**130+**  
BILLS THIS 89TH  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SECURED THE PASSAGE OF  
**6 PRO-BUSINESS**  
PROPOSITIONS

CONVENED  
MORE THAN  
**150+**  
BUSINESS LEADERS &  
ELECTED OFFICIALS IN AUSTIN

“As a government relations professional, I understand the critical role strategic advocacy plays across state, local, and federal levels. The Fort Worth Chamber serves as the point of the spear for our business community's interests. The Chamber drives alignment, elevates priorities, delivers results, and leads with a pro-business purpose.”

**BECKY REDMAN, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, LOCKHEED MARTIN AERONAUTICS CO.**





# EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

The Fort Worth Chamber delivered a robust calendar of member-focused programming built around four core event types. These included high-profile signature events that celebrated business leadership and highlighted Fort Worth's economic growth; focused business development programs that equipped companies of all sizes with tools, insights, and connections; advocacy and policy forums that elevated the voice of employers on key civic and legislative issues; and curated networking experiences that fostered meaningful peer-to-peer relationships across industries.

All FWC events are intentionally offered at varied times, locations, and in multiple formats throughout the year to ensure broad accessibility and meet the diverse needs of the Chamber's membership.

OVER  
**4.5K**  
ANNUAL FWC EVENT &  
PROGRAMMING ATTENDEES



OVER  
**100**  
FORT WORTH CHAMBER  
PROGRAMS & EVENTS



WE OFFER  
**ENDLESS**  
NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR BUSINESSES OF ANY SIZE



“ My involvement with the Chamber has been instrumental in strengthening both my professional network and our company's local business development efforts. By consistently showing up and engaging, I've been able to connect with leaders and innovators across a wide range of industries. These interactions have created meaningful opportunities to exchange ideas, better understand the evolving needs of the Fort Worth business community, and build authentic relationships that extend beyond a single event. ”

**CAROLYN PHILLIPS, CRO, HF CUSTOM SOLUTIONS**

# MEMBER VOICES, COMMUNITY IMPACT



**“HIGGINBOTHAM STARTED AS A SMALL COMPANY HERE IN FORT WORTH. BY CONNECTING WITH OTHER SMALL BUSINESSES, WE CAN HELP THEM GROW, LEARN HOW TO TRUST THIS COMMUNITY, AND LEVERAGE THE NETWORK. JUST LIKE WE DID TO BECOME A LARGER BUSINESS.”**

**JEFF BOOTH, HIGGINBOTHAM**

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This ongoing, boots-on-the-ground outreach led by the FWC’s annual Small Business Walk is vital for the FWC because it builds trust, surfaces emerging challenges early, and ensures the Chamber’s programs and advocacy stay closely aligned with what local small businesses actually need.

**“THE CHAMBER FITS INTO PROJECTS LIKE THIS BECAUSE IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE’S GOT ‘A GUY’, AND I ALWAYS LIKE TO SAY THAT THE CHAMBER IS ‘MY GUY’. WHEN THERE’S A PROBLEM, I CAN CALL THE CHAMBER AND FIND OUT WHERE THEY HAVE CONNECTIONS.”**

**DAVID CAMPBELL, HUITT-ZOLLARS, INC.**

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The Chamber serves as a trusted, go-to partner for local businesses, connecting them with the right people and resources when it matters most. Our business community can count on the FWC to be a connector, a collaborator, and a source of practical solutions.



**FWC membership opens a gateway to essential insights, enhanced visibility, and opportunities for community engagement, enabling your business to prosper.**

# THANK YOU TO OUR TOP INVESTORS OF 2025



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

**Brian C. Newby**, Managing Partner, Cantey Hanger LLP, Chair • **Mike Micallef**, President, Reata Restaurant, Vice Chair • **Matt Whip**, Partner, Financial Services, Ernst & Young LLP, Treasurer, Chair of Finance • **Charlie Campbell**, Executive Vice President Finance & Operations, Hillwood, Past Chair • **Steve Montgomery**, FWC President & CEO

## EXECUTIVE BOARD DIRECTORS

**Holli Davies**, META • **Lucas Bathurst**, HDR • **Henry Hudson**, Danone • **Ken Randall**, Baird, Hampton and Brown, Inc. • **Lori Baldock**, Simmons Bank • **Andrew Lombardi**, Crescent Real Estate LLC • **Becky Redman**, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics • **David Tesmer**, Texas Health Resources • **Travis Clegg**, Real Estate Council • **Matt Homan**, Trail Drive Management Corp.

## AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

**Alyce Jones**, Adair Eyewear  
**Mia Moss**, Black Coffee, LLC  
**Markus Kypreos**, Blackland Distillery  
**Courtney Garner Lewis**, First Bank Texas  
**Paxton Motheral**, Cassco Land Co., Inc.  
**Carol Klocek**, Center for Transforming Lives  
**Johnny Campbell**, City Center  
**Laura Ivory**, Deloitte & Touche  
**Dr. Marie A. Holliday DMD**, Flowers to Go  
**Lauren Cockerell**, Kwedar & Co.  
**Miguel Calera**, La Gran Plaza  
**Vicki L Cisneros**, Los Vaqueros Restaurants  
**Pepper Sims**, Pepper-L Specialties LLC  
**Jeffery Postell**, Post L Group  
**Ryan Haggerty**, RHR Oil & Gas  
**Joseph DeWoody**, Valor

**Brian Lynch**, Ben E. Keith Foods  
**Grant Coates**, The Miles Foundation, Inc.  
**Greg Jordan**, Trinity Metro  
**Bexie Nobles**, WALSH  
**Ken Schaefer**, Schaefer Advertising Co.  
**Ashley Freer**, Balcom Agency  
**Karen Denney**, Haynes and Boone, LLP  
**Joel W. Heydenburk**, Jackson Walker LLP  
**Nico Leone**, KERA  
**Mackenzie Carolan**, Linbeck  
**Lisa Rettew**, Luther King Capital Management  
**Jennifer Baggs**, Texas Capital Bank  
**Brendan Harrington**, Autobahn Motorcar Group Fort Worth  
**Sanel Thomas**, Chick-fil-A Stockyards  
**John Vallance**, Whitley Penn

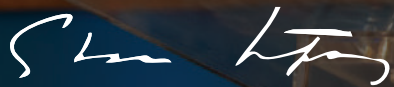
**Cliff Keiser**, UMB Bank  
**Christina Elbitar**, Cafe Chadra  
**Andrew Cronk**, Charles Schwab & Company, Inc.  
**Joe Graber**, D&M Leasing  
**Scott Orr**, Fidelity Investments  
**Matt Sylvia**, First Financial Bank  
**Mike Coffey**, Imperative Information Group  
**John Ashour**, InterConnect Wiring L.L.P.  
**Brian Randolph**, Mercantile Center  
**Jack Clark**, Red Oak Realty  
**Dan Buhman**, Tarrant Regional Water District  
**Drew Hayden**, The Worthington Renaissance Fort Worth Hotel  
**Charles Williams**, Baylor Scott & White All Saints Medical Center- Fort Worth

As we reflect on 2025, I am proud of the meaningful progress we achieved together in strengthening the Fort Worth business community. Every effort this year was guided by our commitment to delivering real value to our members while advancing our vision of positioning Fort Worth as the most competitive business location in Texas.

Our work remained rooted in our mission to bring the Fort Worth region together to identify challenges, develop solutions, and align resources that create a stronger business climate and greater economic opportunity for all. Through our core principles of leadership, engagement, and advocacy, we continued to convene business leaders, champion pro-growth policies, and create opportunities that support businesses of every size.

We also continued to prioritize business retention and expansion—ensuring that the companies proud to call Fort Worth “home” have the resources, connections, and support they need to grow and succeed.

This progress would not be possible without the continued partnership of our investors and the dedicated leadership of our Board of Directors. Thank you for your commitment to Fort Worth and for helping drive the shared success and momentum of our region.



**STEVE MONTGOMERY**  
PRESIDENT & CEO, FORT WORTH CHAMBER



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CHAMBER★**