



Resource Development Group

30 Years of Economic Development Fundraising

Thirty Years Strong: Looking Ahead with Gratitude and Momentum

By RDG CEO Clint Nessmith

As we close RDG's 30th anniversary year, our team remains deeply engaged in supporting the organizations we are privileged to serve. As anticipated earlier in the year, the fourth quarter brought increased client activity as economic development organizations and chambers of commerce navigated an often-unpredictable economic environment and adjusted to changes in federal grant funding.

Across the industry, leaders have responded with creativity, resilience, and a willingness to explore new approaches. Many organizations are thoughtfully expanding beyond traditional operating models, including the pursuit of private-sector investment to complement public resources—sometimes for the first time. It has been rewarding to walk alongside clients as they position themselves for long-term sustainability and impact.

Reflecting on our work in 2025, I am grateful for the trust our clients place in RDG. This year, we had the opportunity to collaborate with the following organizations, many of which will continue into 2026:



We were also pleased to develop case studies highlighting the work of [Maury Alliance](#) and the [Greater Wichita Partnership](#). These examples showcase what is possible when strong local leadership aligns vision, strategy, and investment. Both case studies are available [here on our website](#).

One of the most meaningful milestones of the year was the announcement of RDG's partnership with [OCO Global](#), focused on extending proven public-private funding models to economic development agencies in Europe. This collaboration reflects conversations that began several years ago by Rob Radcliff, Doug Radcliff, Vincent Raufast, and Gareth Hagan and were grounded in a shared belief that communities benefit when financial strategies are both diversified and durable.

We are grateful to our colleagues at OCO Global—past and present—for their collaboration and shared perspective. As this partnership moves forward under the leadership of CEO Joachim Arnold, we look forward to contributing practical frameworks and real-world examples that support implementation, not just ideas. Our goal is to help organizations strengthen financial resilience while delivering measurable, community-level outcomes.

In 2025, we also invested in improving the tools and services that support our clients' work. This included a complete rebuild of Campaign Manager, our campaign-tracking platform, with new investor engagement capabilities, as well as expanded investor-relations support for several client organizations.

None of this work happens in isolation. It happens because committed leaders choose to invest in their organizations, their regions, and their future—and invite us to support that journey. As we conclude our 30th anniversary year, I am sincerely thankful for every client, partner, and colleague who has shaped RDG's work. Looking ahead to 2026, we are excited to continue learning, collaborating, and serving the organizations that strengthen communities across the country and beyond.

Happy New Year,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hunt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "H".

Resource Development Group (RDG) partners with chambers of commerce and economic development organizations across the country to design and execute fundraising strategies that drive measurable impact.

Learn more at www.rdgfundraising.com

To learn more about Clint Nessmith go [here](#). Please go [here](#) to visit the RDG Interactive Blog.



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Resource Development Group is celebrating 30 years of economic development fundraising consulting for clients across the United States. RDG is highly specialized in that the firm ONLY works with chambers of commerce and economic development organizations and brings to bear a team with deep roots from the industry. Reach out to Clint Nessmith at Clint@RDGfundraising.com with feedback, questions, or to explore how RDG can work with you to help you achieve your revenue goals.

RDG is proud to be a new sponsor of the "Econ Dev Show" e-newsletter. If you want a wealth of industry relevant knowledge at your fingertips weekly, become a subscriber [here](#).

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RDG is excited to partner with **OCO Global** to bring the public private partnership funding model to economic development organizations in Europe and beyond

Resource Development Group (RDG) is an economic and community development consulting firm. In addition to capital campaign management, we conduct feasibility studies, best practice research, and organizational development and optimization work. Our client base includes chambers of commerce, economic development organizations and public-private partnerships throughout the United States. RDG was founded in Columbus, Ohio. We have three offices in Georgia (Atlanta, Statesboro, and Columbus) as well as in Asheville, NC, Charleston, SC, and Paris, France. Our mission is to help you elevate!

Current Clients:





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