

David Ryan - Bio

David Ryan is a veteran economic development professional and the Executive Director of the Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development Corporation, a public – private partnership charged with strengthening the economy of Salisbury, Wicomico County and region. Ryan shares a passion for promoting his hometown of Salisbury as he implements meaningful programs and initiatives to succeed in the economy of today and tomorrow.

During his tenure, he has helped create a cluster of telecommunications manufacturers, assisted in the formation and operation of a regional revolving loan fund, established the county's first small business incubator, planned with the private sector a new industrial park and formed the county's first business expansion fund for startup, existing and new businesses. He's brokered more than \$35 million in direct lending accounting for more than 6,000 jobs and more than \$150 million in capital investment. He led the effort in deploying \$13.85 million dollars in pandemic relief grants to over 1,200 small businesses located in every corner of Wicomico County. Current projects, among others, include the creation of a shovel-ready site program and the establishment of an Aviation Maintenance Technician school at the Salisbury-Ocean City: Wicomico Regional Airport.

Ryan consistently serves on statewide task forces and committees, is a Past President of the Maryland Economic Development Association and is active on local advisory boards associated with TidalHealth, Salisbury University, Wor-Wic Community College, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. In addition, he is a member of the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Greater Salisbury Committee, the Delmarva Water Transport Committee and the Wicomico County Airport Commission.

From a community perspective, Ryan is active in Asbury United Methodist Church, serving as a past Treasurer and as an Executive Committee member to the Asbury Child Development Center, a pre-school ministry of the Church. He is a past board member of the United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore, the Salisbury YMCA and a Past President of Lower Shore Enterprises, a non-profit corporation connecting people with disabilities to job opportunities.

Ryan received his Bachelor's Degree of Science in Marketing and Economics from Old Dominion University and his MBA from Salisbury University. He is a former tennis professional, the longest actively serving Economic Development Director in the State of Maryland and a member of both the Maryland Economic Development Association and the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce' Hall of Fame.