

2025



BOARD DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 6 & 7
HILTON GARDEN INN
DOWNTOWN
ALBANY, GA

HOSTED BY:
THE ALBANY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2025 Conference Agenda

Thursday, November 6, 2025 – Hilton Garden Inn Downtown – Albany, GA

11:00am	REGISTRATION OPENS Please note rooms may not be available for check-in until 4:00pm	<i>Hotel Lobby</i>
11:30am	WELCOME LUNCHEON <i>Presentation of 2025 GACCE Executive of the Year, the 2025 Class of Georgia Certified Chambers, and Executive Service Awards</i>	<i>Flint III</i>
12:30pm	BREAK	<i>Sponsor Area</i>
12:45– 1:45pm	KEYNOTE SESSION Board Basics: Your Guide to Governance In this session, we will discuss how to build strong boards and committees from recruiting the right people, to successfully orienting board and committee members, and planning for succession. It all centers around understanding the governance responsibilities of your chamber's board members. Session objectives include recruiting board members that reflect the diversity of your members; understanding board "basics" and requirements and setting expectations; and coaching the board or committee to think strategically and prepare for succession. <i>Jeremy Arthur, CCE, Director of GEDI, Auburn University</i> Session Sponsored by One Digital	<i>Flint River Ballroom</i>
1:45pm	BREAK	<i>Sponsor Area</i>
2:00– 3:00pm	KEYNOTE SESSION Workforce Best Practice – West Alabama Works Discover how West Alabama Works has become a model in workforce development through innovative collaboration and industry-driven strategies. This session will highlight best practices and outcomes from their regional approach, while also exploring the new role of chambers in workforce development - demonstrating how Chambers of Commerce are evolving to lead workforce initiatives and drive economic growth in their communities. <i>Donny Jones, CCE, Executive Vice President & CWO, The Chamber of West Alabama</i>	<i>Flint River Ballroom</i>
3:00pm	BREAK	<i>Sponsor Area</i>
3:15– 4:15pm	PANEL DISCUSSION What Does Success Look Like – Advice & Lessons Learned Learn valuable insights from business leaders who have served in leadership roles for their Chambers of Commerce. This session will explore the meaning of success and how it can differ from person to person, and chamber to chamber. Speakers will share their personal experiences and strategies for achieving success while working together for the betterment of their Chamber and community. <i>Moderator – David Bradley, Athens Area Chamber</i> Session Sponsored by Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education	<i>Flint River Ballroom</i>

5:30pm

Tour of Flint RiverQuarium

Join us for a short walk from the hotel to the Flint RiverQuarium – a one-of-a-kind adventure in Albany! The venue features a unique blue-hole spring and more than 100 mysterious creatures. We'll enjoy beer/wine and light appetizers before heading to dinner.

6:30pm

NETWORKING DINNER – The Flint

We will take a short walk from the Flint RiverQuarium to The Flint for our dinner. This will be a casual meal with no formal program so that you can network together.

Friday, November 7, 2025 – Hilton Garden Inn Downtown – Albany, GA

7:30am

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Flint III

8:30– 9:30am

KEYNOTE SESSION

Flint River Ballroom

Georgia's Bright Energy Future

Kim will share leadership lessons she's learned over the course of her career and will address how Georgia Power plans to continue delivering clean, safe, reliable, and affordable energy to customers in a period of unprecedented growth.

Kim Greene, Chairman, President, & CEO, Georgia Power Company

Session Sponsored by The Chason Group

9:30am

BREAK

Sponsor Area

9:45am – 11:45am

CLOSING WORKSHOP

Flint River Ballroom

Preparing Your Community for Disasters

Following Hurricane Helene, the Georgia Chamber began working with Governor Kemp to develop a playbook as a guide to better engage local chambers during times of crisis. Join experts from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Small Business Administration for interactive tabletop exercises designed to equip your chamber with the tools to support your members and community during emergencies. Georgia Chamber President Chris Clark will share how this initiative is helping chambers lead with confidence when it matters most.

Chris Clark, CCE, President & CEO, Georgia Chamber

Session Sponsored by Georgia CEO

Noon

CONFERENCE ADJOURNS