

## Stanly County in the Regional Economy

Join SCCoC as they welcome Jeff Michael, JD - Director, UNC Charlotte Urban Institute on Thursday, November 2 to learn more about Stanly County's role in the Charlotte Region Economy. "Understanding the roles and relationships of NC's rural and urban communities will be vital to future sustainable economic prosperity for all of NC's 100 counties," says Kathy Almond, President, SCCoC.

Jeff Michael, Director of UNC Charlotte's Urban Institute, will share preliminary findings from a two-year initiative funded by The Duke Endowment to examine the economic linkages - both past and present - between Charlotte and surrounding rural communities. Designed to better understand the relationship between urban and rural communities, the project will also explore opportunities and best practices for building stronger connections and economic ties between these two distinct geographic areas of the greater Charlotte region.

Jeff is a native of Stanly County, so he'll be sharing the institute's research from the perspective of someone who understands the unique characteristics of both sides of that urban-rural continuum.

The UNC Charlotte Urban Institute is an applied research center focusing on public policy issues in the greater Charlotte region. A planner and attorney by training, Jeff's professional experience includes extensive work around land use, sustainable development and land conservation issues.

Prior to coming to the Institute in 2003, Jeff served as Director of the Wildacres Leadership Initiative and the William C. Friday Fellowship for Human Relations, one of North Carolina's premier leadership programs.

Jeff's educational background includes the following:

JD, University of North Carolina School of Law

Master of Regional Planning, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

BS in Business Administration, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Jeff is often called upon by the media and policy makers to share his professional and personal knowledge of the region, and to provide commentary on the economic, environmental and social issues confronting its communities. Jeff was named a William C. Friday Fellow in 1997, and an American Marshall Memorial Fellow in 2005, and has served on the boards of numerous statewide and regional organizations.

Kathy continues, “SCCoC is happy that Jeff is going to be with us on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, and I invite you to join us in this critical conversation about Stanly County’s past, present, and future position in the regional economy.”

This ticketed breakfast event will be held: Thursday, November 2 at the Stanly County Agri Civic Center. Fresh House of Locust will be hosting breakfast; make your reservations today.

Cost: \$25pp / Online Registration: [stanlychamber.org](http://stanlychamber.org) / Additional info: [kalmond@stanlychamber.org](mailto:kalmond@stanlychamber.org) or 704-982-8116



Jeff Michael, JD – Director UNC Charlotte Urban Institute