



David L. White
Executive Biography

David L. White is the President and Chief Executive Officer for Opportunity Stanislaus. Dave was appointed to the position in November 2013 to replace the retiring CEO of the predecessor organization, the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance. In 2016 Dave, the board and his team created a new organization, Opportunity Stanislaus, to be the leading economic development, workforce development and small business development organization serving the Stanislaus County region. Since being hired as CEO Dave was responsible for launching a successful \$5 million fundraising campaign, completing changing the previous organization to a new private sector-driven organization to improve the local economy in Stanislaus County.

Since 2016 Dave and his team have been responsible for launching VOLT Institute, an advanced manufacturing training center that has served more than 100 students. VOLT has a 97 percent placement rate and has made a huge dent in filling the manufacturing skill gaps in the county. Dave and his team have attracted more than 5,000 new jobs to the region with such companies as Amazon, Restoration Hardware, Valley Milk, Blue Diamond, Jatco, Entekra and S2A Modular. They successfully launched a tech coworking space in Downtown Modesto called Mod Space which transitioned to Bay Valley Tech. They launched a successful microenterprise program, Recipes For Success, which is designed to teach low income people to start their own home-based businesses. Opportunity Stanislaus is also host to the Valley Sierra Small Business Development Center which in 2020 provided technical consulting of 4,000 plus hours to more than 1,000 small businesses. Dave serves on the board of the Stanislaus Partners in Education and chairs the Crows Landing Industrial Business Park Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District. Dave also serves on the Board of the Stanislaus County Economic Development Action Committee.

Prior to serving in Stanislaus County, Dave served as Chief Business Development Officer for the Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance. Dave was part of the Business Alliance (and its predecessor organization, the Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation) from March 2006 to December 2013 after a two-year stint as Business Attraction Manager for the City of Riverside, California. Dave brings more than 30 years of economic development experience to the job, having served in Colorado Springs, Riverside and as Vice President of the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance in Pennsylvania.

Over the years he has been responsible for attracting more than 220 companies and over 24,000 jobs to his respective areas of assignment. While in the Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak region, Dave helped attract a \$60 million and 220-employee medical manufacturing facility for Bal Seal, a \$200 million data center for Wal-Mart, a national admissions center for Everest On-Line with 600 employees, a \$250 million data center for Hewlett Packard, a \$50 million data center for Verizon Wireless, and a 600-employee expansion for T Rowe Price.

During his time with the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance he assisted in attracting a major Sony manufacturing plant to Western Pennsylvania, culminating in more than 5,000 jobs. He also helped to initiate new technology programs in Pittsburgh to help overcome the reversal and decline in the steel industry in the mid-1980s. Dave worked with several German companies who opened offices and manufacturing facilities in Western Pennsylvania.

In Riverside, he spearheaded the city's tech program, serving on the CEO Forum, a group of tech CEOs in Riverside, who are positioning the city for greater economic growth among tech firms. He also served as Executive Director of SmartRiverside, a non-profit organization commissioned by Mayor Ron Loveridge, to develop programs to increase tech awareness and opportunities in the city.

For five years, between 1998 and 2003, Dave served as Executive Director of the National Flag Foundation, a national non-profit organization affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America and dedicated to teaching young Americans respect for the Flag, responsible citizenship and an appreciation for the Founding of the United States. In this role, Dave increased funding and membership by 100 percent. He created two national educational programs, "Flags Across America" and "Young Patriots" that were used by schools worldwide, including all the Department of Defense schools.

Dave is a 1987 graduate of Brigham Young University and a 1989 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, having obtained a master's degree in urban and regional planning. Dave is fluent in German and conversant in Russian and has lived in seven states and two foreign countries: the United Kingdom and Austria. He enjoys American History, reading, computers, swimming, cycling, hiking, golf, traveling and spending time with his family. He is married to the former Cynthia Hansen. Dave and Cindy have four sons, a daughter, four daughters-in-law and four grandchildren. Dave and Cindy reside in Modesto.