



Advancing Entrepreneurship

Scale Chatham Proposal
June 22, 2026

Driving Innovation Since 2014




100+ 
"RIoT's"

12,000+ 
"RIoTers" Engaged

200+ 
Sponsors & Partners

130+ 
Lunch & Learns



RAP
RIOT ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

22
Cohorts

200+
Startups

1000+
Jobs


\$400M
Capital Raised


8
Corporate
Innovation Teams


4
Government
Innovation Teams

5 Commercialization
Centers


Stafford
Cary
Raleigh
Wake Forest
Wilson




 Smart Ag

 Wireless


3
Testbeds

 Smart Communities

90+



Podcast
Episodes

14.9K


Podcast
Downloads

250+
YouTube
Videos

26,790+
Views



NC IDEA Impact Since 2005



Technology Based Economic Development



Building Entrepreneurial Capacity

Foundations

High impact programming for idea-stage founders

RAP

RIOT ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

Hands-on, intensive program to accelerate startup growth

Founders' Roundtable

Facilitated CEO peer network to create robust, collaborative communities



NCIDEA[™] MINDSET

Train-the-Trainer education program



NCIDEA[™] ENGAGE

Small grants to community partners



NCIDEA[™] ECOSYSTEM

Larger grants to test and grow creative programs



NCIDEA[™] MICRO

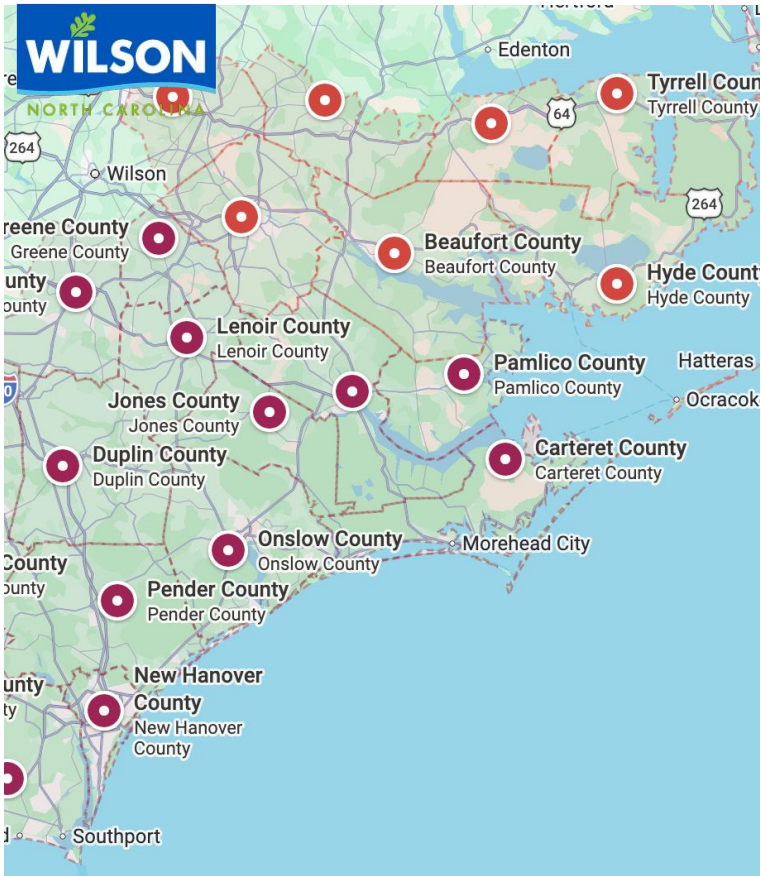
\$10,000 founder grant to validate an idea



NCIDEA[™] SEED

\$50,000 founder grant for growth and scale

Wilson Case Study



We began working in Wilson in 2019, with vision it would be a hub for eastern NC.

Programs:

- 7 Cycles of RAP & 4 Foundations
- Ongoing Founders Roundtable and networking
- Annual Gig East Summit

RAP Outcomes

- 54 Supported Companies
- 100+ Jobs / \$36M+ Revenue

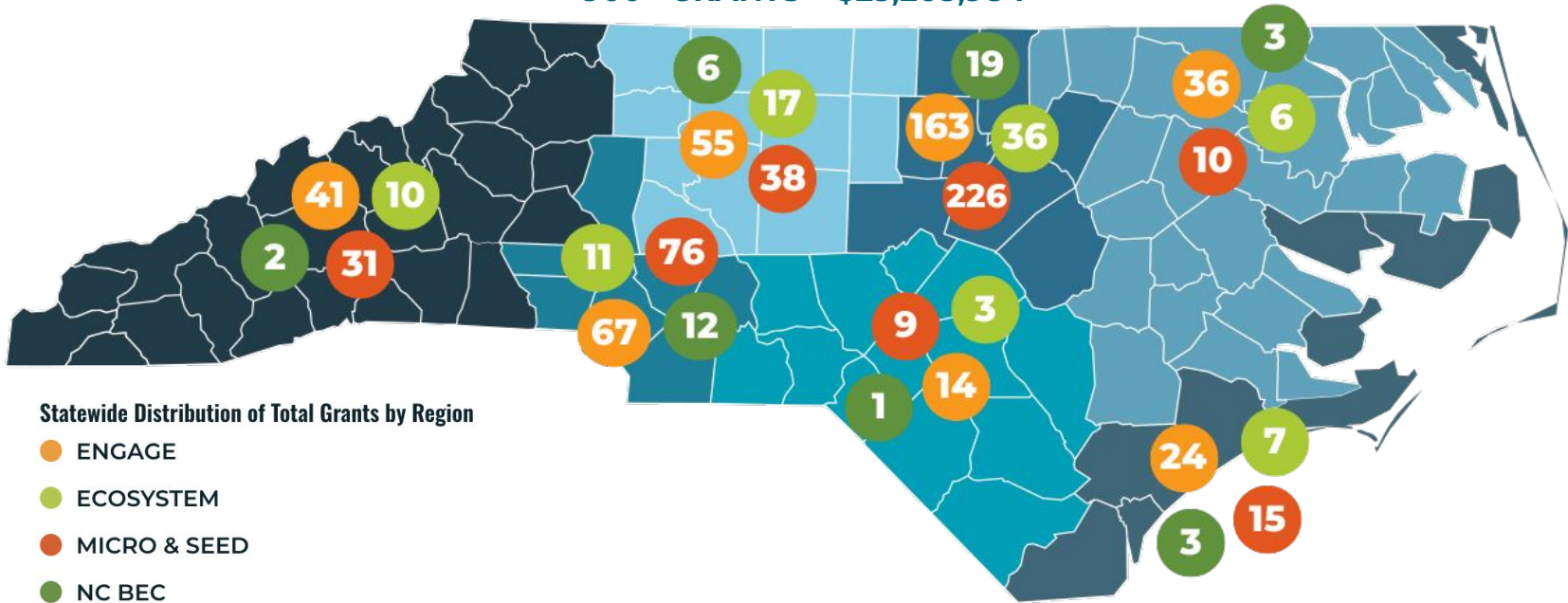
New partnerships and leveraged funding

- \$1.3M USDA; \$300k SBA
- The Source - Ag Testbed



Entrepreneurial Activity

900+ GRANTS = \$23,268,984



Pittsboro Pilot - 1 RAP & 1 Foundations Cycle

Selected Highlights:

Mobile Surveillance Solutions

Double-digit sales growth

Verdia Diagnostics

Won 2nd place at United Nations
pitch competition

Carolina Instruments

Won \$120k Bold Path Fellowship

Infratech DC

Raised >\$1M in venture capital

Nearby Nearby

Founder has launched a 2nd venture



\$12,000 Rural RAP Graduates





We vision Pittsboro as an entrepreneurial hub, serving the Sandhills region.

Initial partners: Chatham, Lee, Moore Counties
Attract additional partners and leveraged \$\$

Programs:

Annual RAP (Fall) & Foundations (Spring)
Ongoing Founders' Roundtable and Networking

TBED approach to scalable businesses with a north star of job creation.