

**Economic Dislocation
Summit
State Leadership
Interventions**

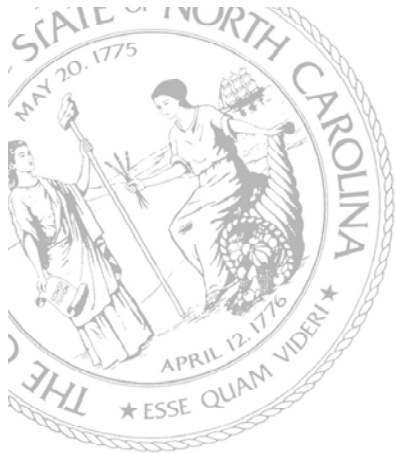
June 21, 2006

NORTH CAROLINA
the state of minds



Doors Closing

- Closings and layoffs take a heavy toll on communities
- Textile, furniture, and tobacco manufacturing plants were the economic lifeline for more than 50 years
- 200,000 jobs were lost between 2000-2005. Most within these traditional industries



Now What?

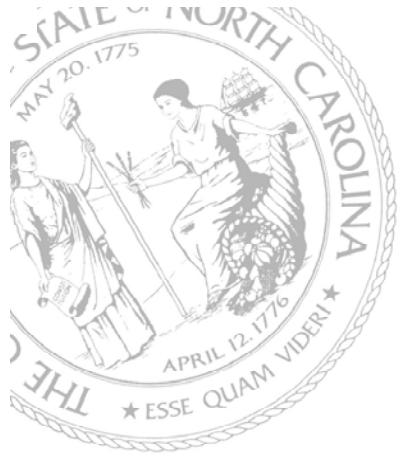
- Average age: mid-upper 40s
- Average years in plant setting: 18-20 years and multi-generational
- Without GED or HS diploma: 40-50%
- Basic skills deficiencies
- Great work ethic



Pillowtex

The Perfect Economic Dislocation Storm

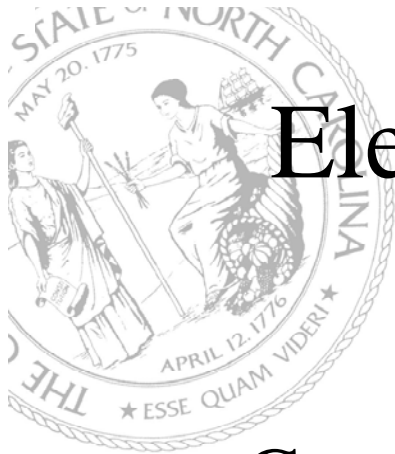
- Plants closed on July 30th 2003. 4800 workers displaced in two counties
- Became the tipping point that brought attention to a problem that began in the mid-90's
- Caused state leadership to rethink what our role needed to be in large worker dislocations



Pillowtex

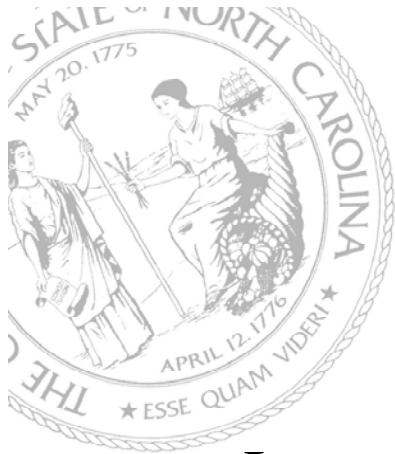
The State Level Experience

- Met with company officials in April, 2003
- Governor convened state leadership team
- Developed a response plan
- Governor identified a primary point of contact for state level coordination
- Engage company, leaders, service providers, union, workers at the local level



Elements of the State Level Plan

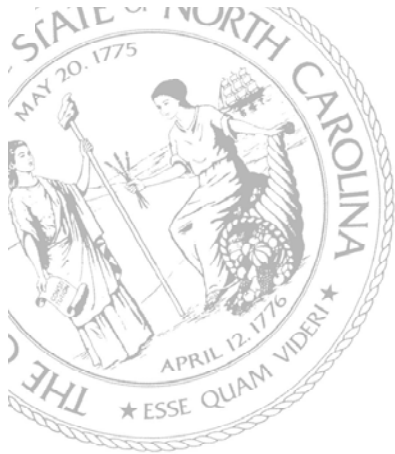
- Cut through red tape—streamline processes
- Maximize available resources
- Ensure workers have access to quality retraining and basic education services
- Work intensively with economic development officials in the communities
- Continue to pressure trade issues at federal level



State Level Experience

What We Learned

- Important to understand the full impact of economic dislocations on workers and communities
- Embrace and empower community organizations
- Deliver services in familiar environment where possible
- Anticipate capacity issues and plan accordingly
- Established clear channels of communication at state and local level
- Began to think through economic development options early on in the process



Systemic Changes

- Early intervention
- Maximize use of technology in service delivery
- Organize community forums
- Packaging resources
- Modulizing training curriculums
- Expanding worker options
- Integrated state level response team