

A SAMPLE OF OUR SUCCESS

PLEASE MEET SOME OF OUR 2015 PACE PLACEMENTS:



Mike Preston was named **Executive Director of Arkansas Economic Development Commission**, as appointed by Arkansas Governor, Asa Hutchinson. This search was PACE Group Executive search and was called “a perfect fit” in a statement issued by Governor Hutchinson, adding that he “...cannot wait to see what his experience, expertise and vision can do for Arkansas.” Preston had tremendous success at his previous employment in Enterprise, Florida, and said that “There is no reason that Arkansas can’t be number one in businesses’ minds when they are thinking about a place to come, work, do business, live, play, everything else.” The PACE Group is glad to have been a part of this placement and expects great things to come from it.



James (Jim) McHale was announced as the new **President and Chief Executive Officer of Education Services Foundation (ESF)** out of **Jackson, Mississippi**. The PACE Group presented McHale from among 150 qualified applicants in a national search. McHale successfully served as a senior leader at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Michigan and is extremely well equipped to succeed in his new role. The ESF Board of Directors unanimously pledged their support to this excellent match. McHale has the education, experience, and track record to ensure a bright future for ESF and the people of Mississippi.



Marie Briganti was named the **President and Chief Executive Officer of Battle Creek Unlimited (BCU) in Battle Creek, Michigan** after a lengthy and thorough search for the best candidate. Briganti was described by the State of Michigan’s Auto Department Head Nigel Francis as “...a positive problem solver that developed inroads where few others have in attraction and retention.” The PACE Group was pleased to lead this exhaustive search to find BCU’s worthy candidate.



Bill Hannah was appointed as the new **Chief Executive Officer and President for the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation (EMBDC)** by the board of directors. EMBDC's mission is to "Empower a diverse leadership culture to achieve economic wealth through excellence in education, new investment, and the nurturing of existing business and industry". Hannah has had success time and again with improving relationships with local government and groups for mutual benefit. The PACE Group presented Hannah as a top choice and the board of directors approved him unanimously as their new CEO.



Rob Petersen is now the **President and Chief Executive Officer of Cornerstone Alliance in Benton Harbor, Michigan.** Peterson will oversee business attraction, job creation, existing business retention, and fundraising as CEO. Petersen is no stranger to these types of responsibilities as he has had similar successes in previous roles. Peterson was one of several qualified candidates presented to Cornerstone Alliance from a national search and Petersen is primed and ready to do great things for Berrien County.



Betsey Hale was selected as the **President of Three Rivers Development Corporation.** Whoever took this role would have big shoes to fill, since they would be replacing a 42 year veteran. With degrees from Cornell and Colorado State University and an impressive record for economic development, Hale was described as "a perfect fit" by the leader that she is replacing. Board chairman Tom Tranter said "Her combination of knowledge, skills and abilities is exactly what our board was looking for. I look forward to working closely with her as we continue to build and sustain a strong regional community." The PACE Group was pleased to present this 'perfect fit' as their next President.



Mark Dobsen was chosen as the **Economic Development Corporation of Elkhart County, Indiana President and Chief Executive Officer.** Dobsen was one of the candidates presented by the PACE Group. In a statement to Elkhart Truth about the quality of candidates in the search, "We had a very diverse group of statewide and nationwide candidates who all possessed unique skill sets that could have benefited the EDC of Elkhart County. The caliber of the applicants we interviewed was very talented and really speaks highly of the EDC and Elkhart County" EDC board vice chair Ken Julian said." Dobsen was named CEO because of his extensive experience in economic growth and development and accolades from his accomplishments in those roles.