

# Application for Appointment to Mountain Community Capital Fund Operating Committee

This information is requested to assure that a cross section of the community is represented.  
Buncombe County residency is required for appointment to any board or commission.

**Are you a resident of Buncombe County?**

**Residence County Commissioner District**

**How many years have you been a resident of Buncombe County?**

**Pronouns**

**My Pronouns**

**Prefix**

**First Name**

**Last Name**

**Home Phone**

**Mobile Phone**

**Email Address**

**Address**

[Redacted]

Suite/Apartment #

**City** Asheville **State** North Carolina **Zip Code** 28803

**Mailing Address (If different from above)**

[Redacted] 

Suite/Apartment #

**City** Asheville **State** North Carolina **Zip Code** 28801

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following questions.

**Race**  
Black or African American

**Gender**  
I identify as female

**My Gender**  
[Redacted]

**Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?**  
No, not Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin

**My Ethnicity**  
[Redacted]

**Age Group**

55+



**What is your current employment status?**

Self Employed



**Employer Name**

Dee Williams and Company, Inc. and Eagles' Wings Community Dev. Corp.

**What position do you currently hold?**

President/CEO

**Employer Address**

85 CHOCTAW ST LOWR LEVEL

Suite/Unit #

**City**

ASHEVILLE



**State**

North Carolina



**Zip Code**

28801

**Employer Phone**

(828)275-6217

**Extension**

**Employer Email Address**

deewilliams136@gmail.com

**How did you hear about this board vacancy?**

Mr Tim Love

**Are you currently serving on any other Buncombe County board or commission?**

No



**Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that may arise during your service on this board (i.e. property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:**

No

**Please indicate the area of expertise you can bring to the board, then list education, experience and reason for your interest.**

Ethnic Minority Business Development - Financial Management/Analysis, Degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, and Political Economics, first Black professional in WNC to successfully package/get SBA Guarantee and Direct Loans processed, the 2004 Minority Construction Firm of the Year - Southeastern USA & Puerto Rico - U.S. Dept. of Commerce/Atlanta Regional Enterprise Office.

**Why are you interested in serving on this board?**

To help provide competent expertise /guidance to lenders and firms who come from low wealth and marginalized communities. To oversee the taxpayer and donated funds which are in the Fund are managed/used prudently, safely, and that they are repaid.

**What would you like to achieve if appointed?**

I would like to see these businesses become more scaled or to grow in the capacity to create living wage jobs and to add to the tax base of our community.

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## Attachments

Download a zip (/Application/DownloadById/626) of this application to view attachments.

**Dee Williams Resume-2023.pdf**

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## DeRothea “Dee” G. Williams

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### SKILLS:

- Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, G-Drive/Sheets
- Project Management
- Grant Writing
- Tax Preparation- (Corporate)
- Project Management
- Financial/Budgetary Literacy Training
- Marketing and Business Development
- Contract Acquisition and Management
- Financial Statement Construction/Analysis
- Strategic Planning/Problem-solving
- Construction Estimation
- Business Plan Development
- Organizational Development
- N.C. Dept. of Transportation – Certified/Trained in Transportation Logistics and Planning
- Real Estate Development
- Commercial Loan Packaging
- Program Performance Auditing

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Reparation Commission – Buncombe County – “Criminal Justice Reform Subject Matter Expert”, Housing, Performance Audit Scope Committee and Economic Development Work Groups, respectively. – 2022 - 2024
- Buncombe County – 20 Year Comprehensive Planning Committee – 2043 Plan - 2022
- “Ban the Box” – Regional Coordinator, Chair of Buncombe County Re-Entry Council – Worked with Mission Health Systems, the largest regional employer in Western North Carolina (10,000 employees) to remove the mandatory “box” on its job applications which indicates whether an applicant has a felony, April 2016, which subsequently led to removal of the “box” on City of Asheville and Buncombe County job applications, respectively.
- Debated and won the affirmative case for the Decriminalization of Marijuana against Sheriff Van Duncan and a local drug counselor with attorney Ben Scales which was sponsored by the Wilma Dykeman Legacy in April 2016. This debate was sponsored and judged by the Asheville High School Debate Team.
- Chair, NAACP Criminal Justice Reform Committee – 2016 to 2020 – Data and trend analysis using N.C. Policing Tool to show traffic stop racial disparities by the Asheville Police Department with the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, PRC Applications and a coalition of social justice groups to reduce these disparities with low cost/no cost solutions. Achieved unanimous passage by Asheville City Council for written consent for all stops and searches of pedestrians and motorists by Asheville Police Department.
- Organizer of “The Social Determinants of Health for African-Americans in Asheville, NC – The Real Asheville Initiative. This collaboration which is led by grass roots leaders of the black community utilizes data in the four sectors of: Economics, Housing, Education, and Police Brutality/Criminal Justice Reform to shape policy initiatives which impact their lives. Data has also been collected in the specialized areas of economic demographic data on African-Americans who live in Asheville public housing, and an analysis of City and County minority business procurement and contracting, based on the worksheets which are contained in the City of Asheville 2018 Disparity Study., This data will be used to analyze problems, programs and to influence procurement/contracting policies which will provide greater utilization of low wealth and minority owned businesses.
- Incorporator of Asheville- Black Lives Matter, Incorporated, 2016.

- Organizer of the Opportunity Zone Initiative for the black community of Asheville in which U.S. Treasury and the N.C. Department of Commerce has designated five Census Tracts in Asheville City in which investors are offered capital gains tax abatements to provide living wage jobs, training, affordable housing, and business opportunities to low income and minority residents without further displacement.
- Appointed to inaugural Operations Board for the Mountain Community Capital Fund by Asheville City Council. This will provide collateralization of 85%(cash) of loans to businesses which are owned by minority, low income, and disabled citizens of Asheville and Buncombe County.
- Lead Organizer/fund raiser of Participatory Budgeting Workgroups for the Black and Working-Class Communities of Asheville with a former Chief Financial Officer of City of Asheville, SURJ, A-BLM, Black Ministers' Union, Councilman Haynes, and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Asheville.
- Peer Support Specialist in Mental Health, Substance Abuse– UNC- Chapel Hill School of Social Work

## **SIGNIFICANT PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

President/CEO – Dee Williams and Company, Inc. – provide training technical assistance in entity formation, strategic planning, financial packaging, grant writing to non-profits and business development and contract estimating/ procurement to for-profit businesses. Incorporated a local non-profit which provides job training in weatherization, home repairs, and de-cluttering to low income/elderly/ disabled citizens in Buncombe County. This entity also provides job training in these areas and is negotiating a subcontract to train/un/under-employed people as highway workers for regional and national construction firms on the I-26 Connector Design/Build Project

Volunteer Chief Executive Officer, Incorporator of Eagles' Wings Community Development Corporation – a collaborative of over 70 predominantly African-American churches in 22 counties in WNC which provides permanently affordable mixed use/mixed income affordable housing and ethnic minority business training and technical assistance to bridge the racial wealth gap.2020- current.

As Field Operations Manager for Census 2010, developed logistics plan for training/ deployment of over 500 clerical management and field personnel to conduct Census for 26 counties in Western North Carolina.

- Trained/cascaded training in utilization of hand-held computers.
- Set up largest supply/ inventory and vault room in 26 counties for issuance and retrieval of supplies, materials, and GIS computers to and from field.
- Coordinated with regional governments, law enforcement agencies to uplink handheld computers to phone systems in remote areas to transmit data to satellite in most remote areas on WNC.
- Won commendation and cash award for design, deployment, and completion of successful operations in WNC.

As Business Development/Procurement Specialist for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, increased office productivity by over 300%, and facilitated Asheville Office and Cherokee as leaders in the regional business consulting field.

- Developed strategic business relationships for clients and offices, leading to higher market visibility and expanded business opportunities.
- Packaged many commercial and SBA guarantee loans for clients which established the firm as a leader in small business technical assistance in the region.
- Coordinated advertising and public relations.
- Assisted many construction and procurement small business estimators with appropriate bid strategies

which enhanced the firm's reputation among contracting officials in local, state, and federal governments.

- Led successful initiative in creating small business revolving loan pools for small and minority businesses in Western North Carolina.
- Facilitated the negotiation of award for the first black firm ever awarded a contract by the City of Asheville, NC.
- Deployed by Minority Business Center in Cherokee to lead the organization and start-up of the Asheville/Buncombe Minority/Women's Business Program
- Started and obtained bank/government funding and sponsorships for Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week in Asheville—one of the largest celebrations and awards for minority businesses in North Carolina
- Set up, authored, trained first personnel for Asheville/Buncombe Minority Loan Pool.

As Commissioner, of Asheville ABC Board, developed the Board's new branding strategy to position as a leader in responsible control of alcohol; yet, as one of the most highly profitable and well-run systems in North Carolina.

- Collaborated in the branding specification and media campaigns.
- Collaborated to manage public relations, including store redesign, reviews, and newsletter campaigns.
- Re-designed process for grants to local non-profits for drug and alcohol "rehabilitation" programs, as Chair of Grants Committee.

As President of Dee Williams and Company, developed the company into one of the leading small M/W/DBE subcontracting construction firms involved in highway/roadway concrete construction in North Carolina.

- Worked on over 100 state, federal, and city street/road projects in seven-year period.
- Won awards from the federal, state, and local governments as "Minority Construction Firm of the Year"—9 Southern States and Puerto Rico – 2004.

As Minority Business Outreach Chair and Chapter Secretary at Asheville SCORE, created training, obtained funding, staffing, and facilitated strategic alliances to open Minority Business Outreach Centers in the City of Asheville.

- Designed developmental training and technical assistance curriculum for clients.
- Designed and implemented training program for SCORE Counselors.
- Arranged utilization of City of Asheville facilities to provide year-round counseling in targeted city neighborhoods.

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

President/CEO – Eagles' Wings Community Development Corporation – Coalition of over 70 predominantly African - American led churches in over 21 counties in WNC which bridges the racial wealth gap by: (1) providing permanently affordable mixed income mixed use rental and owner-occupied housing; and (2) Providing results-based small business training and technical assistance to ethnic minority owned businesses, particularly those which are owned by African-Americans.

Project Manager – United Community Development of North Carolina - part time.

Dee Williams and Company, Inc. – Construction(Civil) Small Business/Non-Profit Consultant – 1999 to 2006.

2006 to current – Professional community organizer, demographer, political economist, and grant writer/loan packager for non-profits, minority businesses. Volunteer, A-B Technical College-Financial Aid Office, Mentor/Tutor-Construction Management Dept.

SCORE, Asheville Chapter, Vice President, Administration and Chair, Minority Business Outreach Center(s) Commissioner, Asheville ABC Board – 2006 to 2007.

Assistant Manager, Field Operations – U.S. Census Bureau – 2009-2010

President/CEO- Dee Williams and Company, Inc. – 1994-2006

Business Development/Procurement Spec.-Eastern Band Cherokee Indians – 1987-1994

Hired by Leverage Fund of Dogwood Health Trust to incorporate, assist with initial funding Eagles' Wings

Community Development Corporation which is the largest coalition by African-Americans for economic development which is comprised of over 70 predominantly Black churches from Texana in Murphy to Hickory in Catawba Counties in North Carolina.

## **EDUCATION**

B.A. – Public Admin./Political Economics/ Political Science, Winston-Salem State University , Winston-Salem, NC.

A.A.S. – Business Administration, Blanton’s Business College – Asheville, NC

A.A.S. – Accounting, Blanton’s Business College, Asheville, NC

N.C. Real Estate Broker’s License – State of N.C.

U.S. Green Building Council – Certified LEED Green Associate.

APICS Completion-Management and Control of Operations – 2013

Certified Logistics Associate – A-B Technical College-2014

Advanced Manufacturing – MSSC-National Certification-2014

Certification – Erosion & Sediment Control – NC Dept. of Transportation and NCSU

Certification – Train the Trainer – Green Infrastructure –

N.C. Real Estate Commission – Licensed Real Estate Broker – Commercial and Residential

Pending Licensure – S.C. and Georgia, respectively, Real Estate Sales Brokerage

First African-American Valedictorian – Asheville High School

We have boldly proposed to the City of Asheville that we want 1.09 acres that are on Asheland Avenue properties, and City owned/privately owned “ under-utilized/available properties” to build permanently affordable mixed use/mixed income housing. In our Phase 3, we want to establish a five-star childcare facility which meets the standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), with certified playground/exterior facilities, as well as owner occupied housing in legacy neighborhoods and on County owned land using customized modular construction. This childcare facility is vital to the Downtown area as a real Transit Hub where folks can take their preschoolers for first class childcare and then take the electric bus, not only to work in the City, but throughout Buncombe County. The addition of a fresh food retailer will cure the area's designation as a " food desert."