

## KS BANK NAMED 2021 COMMUNITY BANK OF THE YEAR



**(SMITHFIELD, NC)** - KS Bank was awarded the 2021 Community Bank of the Year award by the NC Rural Center. This award is given to the financial institution that was a leading lending partner to North Carolina's small businesses while providing exceptional customer service. Phil Marion, treasurer of the NC Rural Center's Board of Directors said, "KS Bank has been a partner of the Rural Center since 2012, and since that time, has supported more than 30 loans for a total lending amount of more than 23 million dollars, of which our [loan] participations total \$3.5 million. KS Bank's partnership has created 121 new jobs and helped retain 537 jobs."

John Parker, Chief Credit Officer at KS Bank said, "Over the past ten years, this partnership has allowed us to facilitate loans to a wide array of businesses representing dozens of new jobs and continuing economic impacts that stays in the community. The Loan Participation Program is just another arrow in our quiver. We certainly recognize that we cannot be all things to everyone, but this program does enable us to be everything to some."

The NC Rural Center gave the award at their annual Summit where this year's theme was "Building a Stronger Tomorrow." Over 400 state leaders gathered March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> to learn, recognize award winners, and celebrate the Center's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Attendees also heard from speakers discussing how to take local action, how to plan for uncertain futures, and more. Learning sessions revolved around building and sustaining equitable communities and the interconnectivity it takes to ensure a thriving future, from education and agriculture to small business, broadband, and more.

**About KS Bank:** For over 98 years KS Bank has served the Triangle East region of North Carolina. KS Bank, a state-chartered savings bank, is a community-oriented financial institution offering a broad array of competitive and pro-growth financial services to businesses, professionals, individuals, and families. KS Bank offers retail and commercial lending and deposit services, mortgage products, and wealth management services through its Trust Division. KS Bank corporate office is located in Smithfield, NC and operates nine financial centers in Johnston, Wake, Wilson, and Wayne Counties. To learn more about KS Bank call 919.938.3101, visit [ksbankinc.com](http://ksbankinc.com), or connect with them on Facebook and LinkedIn.