



Randy Thelen

Randy serves as the President of Lakeshore Advantage. In this capacity, he delivers direct business attraction, expansion and retention services, and provides overall leadership to the organization.

Randy has served as President of Lakeshore Advantage since 2004. Since that time, he has worked with expansion and attraction projects with area companies including Boar's Head Provisions, Energetx, Gentex, Johnson Controls, Haworth, Herman Miller, Hudsonville Ice Cream, LG Chem, Request Foods, Siemen's and numerous others. He also led the effort to convert the former Pfizer R&D facility into the Michigan State University Bioeconomy Institute. Collectively, these projects have led to more than \$1.2 billion in investment in our community, generating 8,500 jobs.



Randy has more than seventeen years of economic development experience, including serving as the Managing Director for the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. His work experience also included stints with the Monroe County Industrial Development Corporation, Osceola Economic Development Corporation, and Greater Gratiot Development Inc.

He holds both Bachelor and Master degrees in Economics as well as certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional. In 2007, Randy received the President's Award from the Michigan Economic Development Association; and was named the 2010 Dealmaker of the Year by Grand Rapids Business Review. Randy serves the Lakeshore area by participating on the boards of the Community Foundation of the Holland-Zeeland area, Holland Area Chamber of Commerce, New North Center for Design in Business, Spectrum Health-Zeeland Community Hospital and the Bank of Holland.