



Darlington County
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Quarterly Update

IN THE NEWS



Grand Strand, Pee Dee leaders talk economic development efforts at annual summit

by Nia Watson, February 20, 2019 WMBF News

"FLORENCE, SC (WMBF) - Jobs and economic development were the topics of discussion among Grand Strand and Pee Dee leaders at the annual Coastal and Pee Dee Economic Development Summit held by Congressman Tom Rice's office Wednesday.

Educators, developers, employers and others driving economic development packed the Florence Darlington Technical College's SiMT building to evaluate improvements over the last year and plan for the future.

"To give a person a job gives them hope," Congressman Tom Rice said. "So we're trying to build collaboration across the spectrum so that people understand what opportunities are available."

The summit provided an economic outlook from federal, state and local levels.

Jennifer Fletcher, the Deputy Director for the South Carolina Department of Commerce said overall the state is seeing strong growth in the number of industrial projects and expansions in the state and anticipates 2019 to be a successful year.

She also mentioned two programs in place to help with workforce development, ManufirstSC and the Coordinating Council on Workforce Development.

Rice also revealed a positive outlook for the area saying every county in the district has an unemployment rate below 6 percent."

[Read more here](#)

In This Issue

In the News
DCEDP Spotlight Event

PROGRESS MEMBERS

Next Board meeting:
June 6, 2019
at noon at SiMT

Share your news

Do you or your company have any Darlington County news to share? If so, email us [here](#) and we'll include it in our next newsletter and on our website.

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Contact Us

[Monica Perry](#)
Darlington County Economic
Development Partnership
843-413-3210



Local educators discuss more choices in higher education for students

by Nia Watson, February 20, 2019 WMBF News

"DILLON, SC (WMBF) - Local leaders and educators discussed the importance of more higher education choices for students.

The conversation was a part of the Educator Summit: Connecting South Carolina Students with Opportunity held by Congressman Tom Rice's office at the Dillon Wellness Center Monday morning.

"They can go back and tell their students, 'Look opportunity is here.' It's not just what's here, but what's coming in the next few years," Rice said.

The summit began with superintendents, guidance counselors and other educators taking a tour of the Dillon Inland Port.

Following the tour, attendees heard from representatives from all three local technical colleges: Horry Georgetown Tech, Florence Darlington Tech and Northeastern Tech about their programs and training to help prepare students for the workforce.

Officials from South Carolina Ports Authority and Harbor Freight Tools also spoke on the major roles technical colleges play in their companies."

[Read more here](#)



Darlington County high school seniors sign up for internships and apprenticeships

by Lauren Owens, Florence Morning News, March 13, 2019

"FLORENCE, S.C. - For 22 Darlington County School District high school seniors, learning is about to begin outside the classroom.

The school district hosted its inaugural signing day ceremony Tuesday morning for the Key to Career program that allows high school seniors to take part in internships and apprenticeships.

Twenty students will take part in internships and two students will take part in apprenticeships with 16 participating Darlington County businesses and organizations, including the Darlington Raceway,

Darlington County Sheriff's Office and the city of Hartsville.

Internships vary from working in the manufacturing industry and working in marketing and sales.

The program allows students to earn course credit for work-based learning that will count toward graduation.

Darlington County School District Superintendent Tim Newman said the internship and apprenticeship program can change the course of student's lives because it can provide job opportunities for them after high school.

"Workforce development is a hot topic right now across the state obviously in Darlington County it is important as well," Newman said. "It's important to our businesses, but it's important to the school district. All students need an opportunity to be successful after high school."

[Read more here](#)



NEED PART-TIME EMPLOYEES?

Find them at our district-wide
RECRUITMENT EVENT!

RESERVE A BOOTH TODAY!

Lamar High School-April 15, 11:30-12:20
Hartsville High School-April 16, 10:45-1:15
Darlington High School-April 17, 10:45-12:30
Mayo High School-April 18, 11:25-12:15

Quinetta Buterbaugh
Business Engagement Coordinator
Darlington County School District
(843) 398-3520 | Quinetta.Buterbaugh@Darlington.K12.SC.US



[Sign up here](#)

DCEDP SPOTLIGHT EVENT:

**Darlington County Progress Industry Appreciation
Event on May 13, 2019**



*Cordially invites you to
attend our*

Industry Appreciation Event

*Monday, May 13, 2019
Drop In From 5 pm to 7 pm At:*

*Senator Gerald Malloy's Office
108 Cargill Way,
Hartsville, SC*

*Please RSVP to Monica Perry
(843)413-3210 or mperry@dcedp.com*



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