

## **News Release**

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February 6, 2019

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Grow Local 2019 Set to Launch**

Program to expose middle and high school students with hands on experiences to local career paths

**GREENVILLE, NC** - The largest effort of its kind in eastern North Carolina, Grow Local, a week-long initiative led by the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Pitt County Development Commission, is set to launch its first no-cost business/educator initiative designed to introduce, involve, inspire and invest in the future of our community and workforce.

Grow Local is a program designed to create and unveil career interests, grow the talent pipeline, and connect local businesses to future employees. The program has registered 2,734 middle and high school students to participate in an on or off campus experience, giving them the opportunity to learn more about all career opportunities available within their host business. These experiences are made possible by the 96 local businesses participating, along with partnerships from Pitt County Schools, Parents for Public Schools and the Pitt County Education Foundation. From tours of local businesses, conversations with business leaders and hands on activities, students will have a first-hand experience at a day in the life of an employee in a field relevant to curriculum they are studying in their class.

"The Chamber is dedicated to our community, local businesses and the future of our workforce," said Chamber President Leo Corbin. "We are excited to offer the Grow Local program to our future employees, allowing them the opportunity to experience what their future may hold, and putting them in contact with local business leaders to help them connect the dots from where they are now, to where they could end up, just a few years down the road."

Grow Local week is set to launch March 18-22, 2019, in conjunction with NC Students@Work Month.

To find out more about Grow Local, please visit <a href="https://www.greenvillenc.org/growlocal/">https://www.greenvillenc.org/growlocal/</a>.

For a video of Grow Local, please visit Grow Local Video.

The Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce is the recognized leader for business success, strategic economic growth, and community development. For more information about the Chamber, visit <a href="https://www.greenvillenc.org">www.greenvillenc.org</a> or call (252) 752-4101.

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