



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leadership Wilmington Announces 2016 Class Members

Wilmington, NC — 34 Wilmington business and community leaders will compose the 2016 Leadership Wilmington class and will plan and conduct the area's largest single-day volunteer activity: Work On Wilmington.

Sponsored by the Wilmington Chamber Foundation, the objective of the ten-month long program is to educate, challenge and motivate leaders and future leaders to utilize their skills to work for the betterment of our community. The class project, Work on Wilmington, is a "hands-on" event that provides the class members an opportunity to put their leadership, decision-making and teamwork skills to work.

This year's diverse class brings a wealth of experience to share with the Wilmington community and their classmates. (A full list of class members follows.) The class members will gather on August 13th at the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce for an orientation session. The class will be introduced to the scope and content of the Leadership Wilmington program and to their fellow program participants.

Next up is the Leadership Wilmington Retreat, which will take place at Trinity Center in Salter Path, on Bogue Banks, in Carteret County. There the class will be treated to a day-long session with international bestselling author and motivational speaker Tom Morris, whose work includes "If Aristotle Ran General Motors." On day two the new class will begin work on their class project - Work On Wilmington (WOW). The 2015 Leadership Wilmington class completed 26 community projects with 1,200 local volunteers participating.

Following the Retreat, the class will begin full-day sessions once a month, beginning in September and continuing through April. Each session will focus on a different topic: Arts & Culture; Environment; Education; Health & Human Services; Infrastructure; Diversity; Growth & Development; Crime & Punishment, and Politics & Government.

Leadership Wilmington is a program of the Wilmington Chamber Foundation. The objective of LW is to educate, challenge and motivate leaders and future leaders to utilize their leadership skills to work for the betterment of our community. The ten-

month program consists of eight all-day sessions, an orientation social, a two-day retreat to begin the program, Work On Wilmington, and a graduation ceremony.

For more information about Leadership Wilmington, contact Haskell Rhett at 910.762.2611 ext. 204 or rhett@wilmingtonchamber.org.

2016 Class of Leadership Wilmington

Ben Atkins (Longley Supply Company)
Suzanne LaFollette-Black (AARP – NC)
Jesica Blake (NC Coastal Land Trust)
Elizabeth Boardman (Lanier Property Group)
Adam Cook (New Hanover Regional Medical Center Foundation)
Laura Courtney (North Carolina State Ports Authority)
Molly Crawford (Trader Joe’s)
Rick DeCrescente (Alliance Credit Union)
Rob Feamster (South State Bank)
Marisa Henry (PPD)
Emily Henson (Duke Energy)
Nichole Herring (The Home Depot)
Alexis Hinds (Sea Coast Staffing, Inc.)
Darion Jeralds (GE Hitachi)
Michael Jones (SBJ Homes/Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Advantage)
Corey Knight (City of Wilmington)
Nick Lauretta (McKim and Creed)
Leanne Laurence (LS3P Associates, LTD)
Elaine Leggett (Barker Jones & Co.)
Thad Leister (GE Hitachi)
Sheryl Mays (New Hanover County – Cape Fear Museum)
Lindsay Miller (Corning, Inc.)
Anne Murray (GE Hitachi)
Lauren Page (Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP)
Melissa Pressley (SAJ Media/GWBJ/WILMA)
Cliff Pyron (North Carolina State Ports Authority)
Jodi Rich (New Hanover County – Parks & Gardens)
Elisa Roels (Keller Williams Realty)
Greg Sager (U.S. Cellular)
Andy Scheid (WSFX—TV Fox Wilmington)
Sara Sloan (McGladrey LLP)
Paul Stavovy (Cape Fear Community Land Trust)
Robert Turner (Cape Fear Community College)
Ken Vafier (New Hanover County – Planning)