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## **Director's Report – DRCI**

### **December 2023**

### **Entrepreneur Program Update**

There are currently 13 *Program Companies* in the Don Ryan Center with several others in the pipeline

- STARTUP companies
  1. Capital Chiropractic (Hardeeville)
  2. Prime IV Hydration
  3. Hardee Greens (Hardeeville)
  4. Elite Support Americas
  5. ChangePoint
  6. Petitek
  7. Phytogenix
- GROWTH
  1. Barbers of the Lowcountry
  2. Universal Bookkeeper
  3. LoCone
  4. Custom Audio Visual
  5. Beachside Tire
  6. Bluffton Electric
- Diligence Meetings - Mike Bishop - Pro Series Golf Irons, Richard Blyudzhys – Delta Roofing, Part of the Family LLC
- Scheduled Diligence Meeting with Richard Inglis for January
- New GROWTH Companies LaSource and Delta Roofing scheduled to start in January 2024
- Calls with Barbers of the Lowcountry – restarting in Q1 and CAV – restarting in February
- Bluffton Electric Site Visit
- Standing meetings with every company at least 2 times per month
- Multiple screening calls with leads that are interested in learning about our Programs

## Operations and Marketing

- Continued work on EDIP marketing plan
- Continued work on creating Pre-Start course curriculum
- Begin work on Artificial Intelligence best practices and implementation course
- Continued work on setting KPI's for new strategic initiatives
- Hosted SC Dept of Commerce Meeting at The HUB
- Strategic Planning with TOB
- Hosted the Professional Women's Network of the Lowcountry at The HUB
- Submitted SC Dept of Commerce StimulateSC Grant application with TOB
- Working on AI Educational Series for 202
- David Nelems presented at HHI Chamber's PowerHourd
- Submitted application for SC impact Grant
- Updated DRCI website
- Attended DEI Committee Meeting
- Continued Municode training and customizing DRCI template
- Worked on creating Pre-Start curriculum for 2024
- Attended BCEDC Meeting about Converge Summit
- SCADPro Meeting for EDIP branding/marketing
- Exploring Generative AI applications
- Attended State of the Region in HHI
- Christmas Tree Lighting duty
- Parade duty
- Attended Municode Training
- Attended event at Beaufort Digital Corridor
- Attended Mayor Sulka's sendoff party
- 2024 planning for Q1 & Q2

## Mentor Program

- 67 Mentors

## Partnerships

**Hardeeville**

- Monthly Meeting with Hardeeville pushed to January
- Continued Work on rebranding the HDV program (logo, social media, web platform)
- Planning Business 101-301 Series
- Planning AI Educational Series
- Working with City of Hardeeville on social media sites DRCI/HDV

**BlacQuity**

- Ongoing classes at The HUB. Their class graduated this month. Starting another cohort in March

**Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation**

- Working with them on multiple projects
- Attended Board Meeting

**Greater Bluffton Chamber**

- Scheduled Lunch & Learn for January and Breakfast for March

**Hilton Head – Bluffton Chamber**

- Presented at the PowerHour

**Entrepreneurial Thought of the Month**

“

**You don't have to be a genius or a visionary, or even a college graduate to be successful. You just need a framework and a dream”**

**Michael Dell**  
FOUNDER OF DELL TECHNOLOGIES

**Forbes**