



Economic Development

What's Next Upstate?

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Had a sub-task force specific to technology organizations (for-profit and communities) - Holly



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Jim
6 years ago

Promote & develop SC Benefit Corporation status, rather than Llc, C corp, S corp, etc



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Ed Wilmot
6 years ago

Provide examples of successful businesses



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Coaching on business acumen



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Grow Upstate reputation for VC efforts and funds



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Creation of a manufacturing hub for inventors



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Expand USC Upstate Johnson College Business Incubator



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Easier to scale & have opportunities to scale beyond what was thought possible



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Develop workforce programs around the needs of the local businesses



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Tie into the makers movement - engage in groups in making things



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Increased engagement through chambers in schools



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Improve education and encourage adult education



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Provide state & local resources / funding at higher levels



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Offer incentives like financial, space, infrastructure, mentorship for entrepreneurs



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Encourage & cultivate an interaction with retired residents willing to share their professional exp



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Loans / investors

Arts & entrepreneurial


Listen to entrepreneurs before

Loans / investors

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Economic 6 years ago




Arts & entrepreneurial incubators in high school & college which develop & retain local talent

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Listen to entrepreneurs before putting regulations in place that might restrict growth

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Provide micro-loans and guarantees

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Seed money

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Create awareness around emerging workforce demands & requirements. Entrepreneurs can respond.

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High speed internet

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Economic 6 years ago




Ensure workforce education earlier. K-12

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Bringing opportunities / ways / means for entrepreneurs to scale

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Create small office share opportunities where businesses can share, enhance & build each other up

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Mentors and coaches after opening a business

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Consider how to differentiate support for retail type businesses vs business-to-business services

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Collaborate with local media to build awareness of new & emerging business in our Upstate

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Develop a robust non-car transportation infrastructure beyond the Swamp Rabbit Trail

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Regional innovation grant

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Seed funding

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Promotion of specific success stories related to incubation, ongoing support, economic success

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Identify specific level of education needed to start businesses.

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Promote resources available through SBDC's & community development organizations

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Provide forums for start-ups to collaborate

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Continue to direct growth of urban areas to maintain quality of life

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Better skilled educational workforce

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Support and promote existing business not just new prospects

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Inland import

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Grow high impact advance manufacturing talent.



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Attract national conferences



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Create more workforce training for the people with in the community so more qualified workers.



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Ticket drivers in the left lane in order to pay for road repair / improvements



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Beth Crews
6 years ago



Review panel for business ideas



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6 years ago



Regional transportation network



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Continuous training of associates and management teams



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Workforce training



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Increase the promotion of mfg & mfg services to junior high & high school students



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Create a research hub - universities & government & business - not just Auto



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More funding support, VC & private equity



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Trained & ready workforce



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Change the culture in public schools where it becomes more acceptable to pursue 2 year tech degrees



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Workforce and soft skills training



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Assist people with marketable ideas but no business sense



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Promote innovative transportation like PRT



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Pass the referendum to fix the roads & other transportation options



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Help, assist and encourage financial



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Workforce training and educational infrastructure



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Competitive incentives



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Address individual and small business as much as large manufacturing



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Transportation, air, better roads



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Help with funding availability (ie help with start-up or expansion capital)



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Transportation



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Cluster focused research
(automotive, health)



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Infrastructure, good public
education, great communities
& technical schools



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Global engagement for global
competitiveness



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6 years ago



Every child graduates at least
a semi-skilled IT/CS
professional



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Regional Wage Index so that
no community becomes a
"bedroom" community to its
neighbor



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STEAM education



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Partnership between high
schools, trade schools & tech
colleges to address
manufacturing skill gap



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Collaborations between
business, industry, and higher
education.



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On going continued education
for the workforce



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Change the culture - create
things like "The BMW
Academy" in high school
technical training.



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A more co-ordinated approach
to envisioning & marketing
educational products for all
students



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Beth Crews
6 years ago



Business & industry people
participate in schools & at
science centers, programs for
youth,



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Business need to talk & follow
through not only about what
they need but what they will
contribute



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Work needs to be meaningful



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Create an environment that not
only accepts change but
actually values change



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Training seminars &
workshops for people looking
for a change in their
employment opps



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Encourage engineers and
scientist to be business
owners.



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Provide support for the
technical colleges



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Create Furman presence
downtown Greenville



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Really promote and prepare
HS students to work with
these sectors



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6 years ago



Invest in teaching "soft" skills
such as communication,
problem solving, team work



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More assistance with
encouraging export
opportunities for small &
emerging industry



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Small business development
zones at empty commercial
sites or former mill sites



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Regional approach to tax
incentives for small /
emerging business



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<p>Penny sales tax to fix roads</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Better job of cataloging communicating available information</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Recruit people to Upstate to help improve available workforce</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>More variety of funding mechanisms</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Life-long learning networks</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Market and communicate resources to up-and-coming companies</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>Build network of professional service providers (accounting, HR, legal) to help support startups</p> <p> 1 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Keep up with emerging technologies & industries to assist regional technical institutions</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Formalize a small business startup & turn around program</p> <p> 1 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>High speed rail</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Support technical college in providing quality education & training opportunities</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Traffic management and transportation options</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>Use political power of senate & house. Relocate federal dept / agency to upstate.</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Keep the basics in full supply: Water, power, sewer</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Ensure that our marketing & recruiting efforts address their concerns</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>Market the new / emerging business regionally. Small business typically has limited marketing funds</p> <p> 1 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Stronger ties between secondary education, industry & technical schools</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>Create a volunteer pool of retired manufacturing talent to coach & mentor young talent</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>Reform tax codes. Repeal Act 388</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>High school career & technology centers</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>More industrial products</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>
<p>Seed funding for start-ups in the Upstate target industries.</p>	<p>Continued partnerships with local feeders & skilled labor force. Strengthen oppo for high school.</p>	<p>Economic policy & incentives designed to ensure we retain existing business along with recruiting</p>

♥ 1 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Tax incentives for the new & existing companies as they continue to grow

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Compete to secure world-class companies

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Provide specific customized training for those industries to support their workforce needs

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Extra focus on technical degrees

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Better educate parents on the changing face of manufacturing

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Increase exports and support global competitiveness

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Involve local manufacturers and business in school guidance counselors

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Continue work with local colleges.

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Invite employers to take on free / low wage internships for to gain industry experience

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Industry specific mentoring programs

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Teach soft skills earlier in school

♥ 1 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Manufacturing apprenticeship programs

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Advocate for funding for education in sciences, math and tech fields

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Provide short courses for professionals to broaden their knowledge outside of workplace experience

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Regional career discovery center

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Provide reasonable tax incentives to encourage stakeholder to establish meaningful partnerships

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Promote & fund career / job awareness to / for middle & high school students

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Create a local network of college entrepreneurs that can encourage student business incubators.

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Community events and/or fundraisers to bring communities the workforce lives in.

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Goals directed toward a shared & agreed upon outcome.

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Find ways to keep local college grads in the Upstate.

♥ 💬 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Create forum for stakeholders to collaborate.

Fund industrial research at our research universities to give upstate companies the competitive edge

Resource mapping so they are known, not duplicated and opportunities for collaboration are clear

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Economic 6 years ago

Stop duplicating efforts.
Collaborate & partner

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Economic 6 years ago

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Support the creative class with
skills focus

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Economic 6 years ago

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Edu Consortium CU, FU, USC,
Wofford, and Converse

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Economic 6 years ago

State needs to put more
funding into technical training

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Have a resource base available
for assistance in all avenues
so they know who, why and
how

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Changes in funding practices
at state level to local career
centers

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Collaborate between all
Upstate higher ed tech schools

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BS Degree fellowship to USC
Upstate Advance Mfg /
Logistics degree

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Promote STEAM education
include existing businesses

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Encourage "cross training" and
cross pollination of industry
expertise

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Create a business environment
in which "skills" are valued as
highly as "experience"

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Support & publicize
alternatives to 4 year colleges.

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Put time & effort into the
training of workforce in the
local career & technology
centers

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More state scholarships
focused on quick job training

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Be vocal about the programs
that already exist

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Identify needs and collaborate
with education to be sure
students are trained for the
future

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More corporate sponsored
scholarships for low-income

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One stop info on alternative
programs to 4 yr degrees.

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Invest in soft skills:
Communication, problem
solving, out of the box thinking

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Creative problem solving and
innovative opportunities by
infusing the arts into job
vocation edu

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Economic 6 years ago


Expand technological learning
to younger students to help
enhance the appeal

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Economic 6 years ago

focus should shift towards
career centers & resources to
keep them training.


Invest in workforce
development programs that
work

Support project-based
education at tech colleges

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Increase collaboration with state government to ensure funding opportunities

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Regional strategic workforce plan

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Identify opportunities for employment to students in 8th and 9th grade

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

More industry specific training with better funding from the state.

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Full semester paid leaves with tuition to qualified workers wanting management degrees.

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Advertise job opening everyday visibly

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Educating upstate parents is still a "missing link"

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Reaching out to young talent earlier - High school

♥ 1 Economic 6 years ago 

Reduce overlap between organizations

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Create an infrastructure to support training, entrepreneurial development

♥ 1 Economic 6 years ago 

Create more jobs for artist

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Friendly loans - banks that understand business

♥ 1 Economic 6 years ago 

work with education to entice, encourage young talent to pursue tech & entrepreneurial interests

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Invest in expanding NEXT throughout the region.

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

The state should fund commercialization efforts of research to demonstration levels.

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Tax incentives for startup companies to attract & retain the companies as they grow

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

More funding, same resources to help these business understand what it takes to be successful

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Improve collaboration & workshop opportunities between early stage companies and mentors

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Partner with local colleges to promote entrepreneurship

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Highlight the value of a liberal arts education.

♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Even start-ups need a plan to go global. Be born exporting


♥ 0 Economic 6 years ago 

More live work spaces in downtown urban areas.


Promote and support EXISTING business.

Form alliances with medium/large business to


Free training sessions for citizens, professionals on business basics

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Promoting & cultivating spirit of entrepreneurship

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


support and foster business idea development.

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Free training sessions for citizens, professionals on business basics

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Promoting & cultivating spirit of entrepreneurship

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Easier and better information on funding, loans, and startup support

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Provide training and resources for non-traditional (low income under resourced) entrepreneurs

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Expand NEXT to include other high-growth industries such as medical and energy

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Market the benefits of the Upstate to tech companies and industry

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Locate an undergraduate institution in downtown Greenville

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Create an environment to foster young talent

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Making rural areas vibrant through creative placemaking

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Continue to tie it all together - industry won't continue to come w/out strong schools

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Better coordination and availability of funding for new business

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Shark Tank Upstate

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Small business advisory team to assist startups

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Small business friendly loans

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Grow and help local entrepreneurs

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Share our business success stories with the rest of the country

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Get government to REDUCE the excessive regulations

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Loosen ordinances that prohibit investment

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 


Offer incentives beyond the statutory tax abatement

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Target the recruitment of small business equally as strong larger ones

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Create a "Community Fund" that funded by individuals with the idea of investing in local business

1 0 Economic 6 years ago 

Develop at summer program

Begin tech education to

Educate parents to help

<p>for at risks children.</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>younger students</p> <p> 0 Economic 6 years ago </p>	<p>increase manufacturing related career interest</p> <p> 0 6 years ago </p>
<p>Make manufacturing more attractive</p> <p> 0 6 years ago </p>	<p>More funding support, VC & private equity</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>Help assist people with marketable ideas but no business sense</p> <p> 1 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>
<p>Competitive incentives</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>Creation of a manufacturing hub for inventors</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>More variety of funding mechanisms</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>
<p>Life-long learning networks</p> <p> 1 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>Better job of cataloging / communicating available information</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>Better market / communicate resources</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>
<p>Provide forums for start-ups to collaborate</p> <p> 1 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>Regional innovation grant - Idea challenge</p> <p> 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>	<p>Seed funing</p> <p> 1 0 TATT 6 years ago </p>
<p>More manufacturing apprenticeship programs</p> <p> 0 6 years ago </p>	<p>Eradicate the stigma against tech schools - there are many opportunities outside of 4-year degrees</p> <p> 1 0 6 years ago </p>	<p>Get children involved in career pathways as early as middle school.</p> <p> 0 6 years ago </p>
<p>workforce training</p> <p> 0 Leigh 6 years ago </p>	<p>Create a forum for stakeholders to communicate</p> <p> 0 6 years ago </p>	<p>Use technology to form virtual communities and discussion with people who may be too busy to make m</p> <p> 0 Wendy 6 years ago </p>
<p>Better patient outcomes by advancing medical treatments, patient education, & medical breakthroughs</p> <p> 1 0 Raj Gavurla 6 years ago </p>	<p>Set up and fund programs to teach financial literacy to high schoolers whether in or out of school.</p> <p> 2 0 6 years ago </p>	<p>Tie support for renters and home owners to financial literacy education programs.</p> <p> 1 0 6 years ago </p>
<p>Develop a network of entrepreneurs</p>	<p>Develop a network of entrepreneurs</p>	<p>Develop a network of entrepreneurs</p>

Provide support for car repairs thru low-interest lending until reliable mass-transit exists.



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6 years ago



Support Community works-Carolina's programs to help folks purchase viable transportation.



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6 years ago



Institute an interest rate cap on lending to drive out predatory lending.



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6 years ago



Eliminate predatory lenders who prey on the least able to sustain themselves economically.



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6 years ago



partnering of related companies



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Madiken
6 years ago



Minimize cost & operational barriers for entrepreneurs & expanding businesses



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Trish
6 years ago



Promoting small business and industrial growth in all ten counties.



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Jeff
6 years ago



Greater information sharing between NGOs.



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Stacy
6 years ago



Collaboration between leadership of business and elected officials



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6 years ago



Reduce the number of players in ED activities in an effort to move quicker and in a unified manner.



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Michael
6 years ago



Work together to generate interest in manufacturing jobs



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6 years ago



Creating jobs that cater to the interest and skills of the rising generation



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Steven
6 years ago



Infrastructure to Support Entrepreneurial Development



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Deborah
6 years ago



There needs to be a stronger partnership between industry and education.



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Nancy
6 years ago



More entrepreneurial workshops with support of local experts to serve as speakers



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Andres
6 years ago



Blue collar: connect jobs are cool AND necessary to be economically viable regionally/globally



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Kimberly Anne
6 years ago



Increase job creation in our low-wealth communities



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A. Stan
6 years ago



Recruit workers from other areas to the upstate



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Marvin
6 years ago



having jobs



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Cynthia
6 years ago



Create business partnerships with the public school systems



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Murray
6 years ago



more cross pollination of talent between counties



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Craig Kinley
6 years ago



Creating More high paying jobs



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Michelle
6 years ago



Encourage gun manufacturers to Upstate



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Elijah
6 years ago



Continue to promote economic development in the Upstate.



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Martha
6 years ago



next story.

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start an Imagine That for your city email:
adam@imaginethat.io