



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**April 24, 2019**

## **HCC SBC to Host Event Celebrating Small Businesses**

**Weldon, NC** - Each year, Halifax Community College (HCC) Small Business Center looks forward to hosting an event to honor and celebrate the small businesses in their service area. Recognizing these local entrepreneurs for their efforts to positively impact their local economies, providing networking opportunities, and sharing small business trends in their area always makes for an enjoyable event. The 5th Annual Small Business Resource and Client Appreciation Day will be celebrated on Thursday, May 2nd from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm in The Griffin Center.

The HCC Small Business Center is excited to announce the keynote speaker for the event will be Mr. Thom Ruhe, CEO/President of NC IDEA. They are looking forward to his address which will explore entrepreneurial mindsets. A number of honored guests from small business and economic development organizations as well as government officials will speak briefly on local updates.

This year's breakout sessions will enable attendees to discover valuable tools and resources for their business. The HCC Small Business Center is pleased to partner with the Halifax County Convention & Visitor's Bureau to share the growing trend of Agritourism and how it can add potential revenue streams. Lake Valley Farms, a successful micro-farming business, will share their personal start-up story and discuss operation of their ½ acre garden as well as their Customer Supported Agriculture (CSA) Agreement. Melanie & Co Marketing Cooperative, a social media and marketing strategy company, will present a marketing strategy to use search engines as opportunity to market your business with "Google My Business".

There will also be opportunities to meet face-to-face with the many small business partners and vendors to make valuable connections for your business. Lunch will be sponsored by NC Growth.

This event is free of charge for small business owners and/or entrepreneurs interested in starting a business in our area. However, participants are asked to pre-register so that we may plan our event accordingly. Please register for the event at [www.ncsbc.net](http://www.ncsbc.net). Attendees will also need to register for one (1) breakout session during the event at [www.ncsbc.net](http://www.ncsbc.net). Seating for each session is limited.

For more information please contact HCC SBC Director, Kelly Barber at kbarber968@halifaxcc.edu or at 252-536-7274.

**Halifax Community College's Mission:**

Halifax Community College strives to meet the diverse needs of our community by providing high -quality, accessible and affordable education and services for a rapidly changing and globally competitive marketplace.

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