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This event is recognized by the International Economic Development Council as a professional development event that counts toward the recertification of Certified Economic Developers (CECD).



2021 GEDA Spring Workshop

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MAY 19-21, 2021
Legacy Lodge at Lanier Islands



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Welcome to the 2021 GEDA Spring Workshop at Lanier Islands

Welcome to the 2021 Georgia Economic Developers Association Spring Workshop – or as our theme reflects: **GEDA – Family Reunion.**

To me family reunions are a special time to reflect on the past, enjoy the present and inspire the future. It is also a time for a group of people that choose to come together and be embraced by a powerful and strong bond.

In this case that would be GEDA and the incredible opportunities it provides members through networking and professional development for Georgia's economic development community.

I would like to thank the sponsorship committee, workshop planning committee, the moderators, panelists and speakers for giving their time and developing a fantastic program. Thank you also to GEDA staff for their efforts in planning and execution. Your efforts are much appreciated.

I'm looking forward to a great family reunion!



Trip Tollison

2021 GEDA Spring Workshop Chair, Savannah Economic Development Authority, President & CEO

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

10 AM – 5 PM Registration (Lobby)

10 AM – 11:30 AM GEDA Board of Directors Meeting (Blue Ridge A)

11 AM– 11:45 AM GEDA 101 – New Member Orientation (Blue Ridge C – *RSVP required*)

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM New Member Luncheon (Magnolia – *invited guests only*)

1 PM Workshop Convenes (Grand Ballroom)

Welcome & Remarks, Trip Tollison, Workshop Chair

Session 1: We are Family! Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Your Community (Grand Ballroom)

Moderator: Ryan Moore, Golden Isles Development Authority, President & CEO

Panelist 1: Nina Johnson, J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development, Public Service Assistant

Panelist 2: Leia Dedic, Savannah Economic Development Authority, VP of Strategy & Partnerships

Panelist 3: Lemuel LaRoche, Chess & Community, Inc., Executive Director

2 PM – 2:30 PM Break with Sponsors (Veranda & GB Foyer)

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM Session 2: Gather Around the Family Table: Why Regionalism is an Effective Strategy (Grand Ballroom)

Moderator: Bradley Harris, Georgia EMC, Manager, Economic Development

Panelist 1: Scott McMurray, Georgia Department of Economic Development, Deputy Commissioner, Global Commerce

Panelist 2: Anna Chafin, Development Authority of Bryan County, Chief Executive Officer

Panelist 3: Shane Short, Development Authority of Walton County, Executive Director

3:30 PM– 4:30 PM Session 3: Family Stories:

Marketing Your Community (Grand Ballroom)

Speaker: Jesse Cole, Founder of Fans First Entertainment & Owner of the Savannah Bananas

4:30 PM Final comments & Adjourn for the Day

5:30 PM – 7 PM Welcome Reception with Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres (Legacy Pointe Tent)

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

THURSDAY, MAY 20

7 AM – 8:30 AM Full Breakfast (Sidney's Restaurant)
Development Authority Executives Breakfast (Magnolia – *invited guests only*)

8 AM – Noon Registration Open (Lobby)

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM Door Prizes & Opening Remarks (Grand Ballroom)

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM Session 1: Potluck: What are You Bringing to the Workforce? (Grand Ballroom)

Moderator: Greg Wilson, University of Georgia, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, Workforce Development & Economic Analysis Unit Manager

Panelist 1: Stacy Watson, Georgia Ports Authority, Director of Economic & Industrial Development

Panelist 2: Dave Bernd, Newton County Industrial Development Authority, VP of Economic Development

Panelist 3: Greg Dozier, Technical College System of Georgia, Commissioner

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM Session 2: Your Extended Family: Site Selectors (Grand Ballroom)

Moderator: Trip Tollison, Savannah Economic Development Authority, President & CEO

Panelist 1: Annie Baxter, CBRE, Vice President

Panelist 2: Tom Croteau, Maxis Advisors, Senior Managing Director, Client Services

Panelist 3: Chris Tomasulo, JLL, Senior Managing Director

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM Coffee Break sponsored by Jackson EMC (Veranda & GB Foyer)

10:45 AM – 11 AM Door Prizes

11 AM – 11:50 AM Session 3: Project Location Case Study (Grand Ballroom)

Moderator: Scott McMurray, Georgia Department of Economic Development, Deputy Commissioner, Global Commerce

Panelist 1: Charles Stallworth, Georgia Power, Business Recruitment Director

Panelist 2: Stephen Adams, Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority, Executive Director

Panelist 3: Bill Hart, J.D. Irving, Vice President, Business Development

11:50 AM Door Prizes; Adjourn for Afternoon Activities

1. Golf at Lanier Islands Legacy Golf Course

2. Spa at Lanier Islands Tranquility Spa

3. Games by the Pool

4. Options on Your Own

6 PM– 7 PM Cocktails & Conversation (with Hors d'oeuvres) (Poolside)

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

FRIDAY, MAY 21

7 AM – 8:30 AM Full Breakfast (Sidney's Restaurant)

8 AM – Noon Registration Open (Lobby)

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM Door Prizes & Recognitions (Grand Ballroom)

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM Session 1: Public Policy & Legislative Update with Cornerstone Government Affairs (Grand Ballroom)

Speaker: Camila Knowles, Principal & Director

Speaker: Sally Kilpatrick, Principal

9:30 AM – 10 AM Session 2: Rural Innovation Fund at OneGeorgia & Broadband Funding

Speaker: Christopher Nunn, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Commissioner

10 AM – 10:30 AM Break with Sponsors (Veranda & GB Foyer)

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM Session 3: 2021 General Assembly Review and Upcoming Legislative Activities (Grand Ballroom)

Speaker: The Honorable Jon G. Burns, Majority Leader, Georgia House of Representatives

11:30 AM – Noon Door Prizes, Final Comments
ADJOURN

Thank you for attending.

**SEE YOU
IN THE FALL!**



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