**NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

*Resources for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities*

*Rocky Mount, NC*

January 28, 2020

Agenda

10:30 a.m. *Welcome*

**Ben Kittner**, Small Business Specialist

NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

10:40 a.m. *The Rocky Mount-Area Economy: Overview and Opportunities*

**David Farris**, President,

Rocky Mount-Area Chamber of Commerce

11:00 a.m. *Rocky Mount-Area Resources for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities*

 **Theresa Peaden**, Director, *Nash Community College Small Business Center*

 **Katelyn Edmondson**, Director, *Edgecombe Community College Small Business Center*

**Mark Frohman**, Representative, *Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)*

**Roberta McCullough**, Executive Director, *NC Women’s Business Center*

**Holly Yanker,** Manager, *Business Link North Carolina*

**Tom Bennett,** V.P. of Public Affairs,*Brian Hamilton Foundation*

**Shonda Rodgers,** Financial Wellbeing Coach, *Operation Hope*

**Patty Skarlinsky**, Loan Associate, *Thread Capital*

**TF Congleton**, Business Development Officer, *Carolina Small Business Development Fund*

**Talitha Batts,** Business Counselor, NC *Small Business and Tech Development Centers*

**Patrick Rodriguez**, Senior Area Manager, *US Small Business Administration*

Lunch  **Annie Baggett,** Agritourism Marketing Specialist, *NC Dept. of Agriculture*

1 p.m. *10-Minute* *Speed Networking Sessions (Across the Hall)*

 Resource Speakers*:* Please pair up, two organizations to a table.

Counselors and Participants*:* Please divide into groups 4 or 5 per table.

*At the sound of the bell,* speakers*, please remind the table which organization you are with, followed by* questions from participants and discussion about Self-Employment cases and VR client needs*.* *When the bell rings, please rotate to next table.*

2 p.m. *Thank You and Adjourn… Please respond to email program evaluation!*