



Partnership Gwinnett Launches Fundraising Campaign

(GWINNETT- METRO ATLANTA) October 2, 2014—[Partnership Gwinnett](#), Gwinnett County's economic and community development initiative, yesterday launched the public phase of a campaign to fund the acceleration of its five-year economic growth strategy to recruit, retain and help expand businesses, attract, educate and retain workforce talent, and improve quality of life for county residents.

Randy Dellinger, Campaign Chair and District Manager of Jackson EMC, welcomed guests at a Kickoff reception at the 1818 Club last evening. Dellinger announced the campaign's progress to nearly 100 business and government leaders.

"Through the collaborative efforts of our business and community leaders, Partnership Gwinnett has already secured over \$524,000 in annual private sector pledges – an impressive 58% percent of our stretch goal of \$900,000 per year. We are grateful for the support of our investors and look forward to new investors joining us," Dellinger said.

Nick Masino, Senior Vice President for Gwinnett Chamber Economic Development & Partnership Gwinnett, said, "With the support of our partners, Partnership Gwinnett has produced tremendous results for businesses operating in Gwinnett, maintaining our reputation as one of the best places in the Southeast and nation to live and do business. During our first five years, we recruited or assisted in the expansion of 112 businesses, achieved more than \$900 million in capital investment, and created more than 10,000 new jobs. We also went from one Fortune 500 company at the beginning of the recession to four by the end." Craig Monaghan, CEO of Fortune 500 company Asbury Automotive Group, Inc., spoke at the Kickoff and noted the primary factors in the company's decision to relocate from Manhattan to Gwinnett in 2008.

Masino noted past success but also emphasized the goals Partnership Gwinnett seeks to accomplish going forward, “This initiative is about accelerating our approach to growing high quality businesses and high paying jobs in Gwinnett, strengthening workforce development, and contributing in a variety ways to the exceptional quality of life we enjoy. To ensure that we continue on this trajectory, it is our goal to fully fund Partnership Gwinnett, which has not been the case since its inception in 2006. It is imperative that we have adequate staff dedicated to each of the priorities of our initiative.”

Dellinger and Masino credited Amity Farrar and Sean Mikula of Atlanta-based fundraising firm Power 10 for their excellent management of the campaign to date.

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About Partnership Gwinnett

Partnership Gwinnett is Gwinnett’s economic and community development initiative. A public-private partnership, the initiative targets the retention and expansion of existing Gwinnett businesses in addition to the development of new business in five key target sectors: Health Sciences & Services; Information Technology Solutions; Advanced Manufacturing; Supply Chain Management; and Headquarters/Professional Services. The ultimate goal is to promote economic wealth & diversification, increase education and workforce excellence, improve quality of life and heighten visibility through marketing and outreach programs for the entire Gwinnett community. For more information on Partnership Gwinnett, the internationally award-winning community and economic development initiative, please visit www.partnershipgwinnett.com.

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