



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY

## REGISTER TODAY

### Wilson Forward Annual Meeting (Virtual)

Thursday, October 8th, 9 -11am

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TO ATTEND](#)



POWERED BY **greenlight** **GIG EAST**

Each year, Wilson Forward hosts an Annual Meeting for local partners and community members on the second Thursday of October. This meeting is designed to focus on specific challenges and opportunities presented to the Wilson community while also highlighting the work of many existing partnerships and collaborative efforts dedicated to making Wilson a great place to work and live. Similar to our prior meetings, we will provide an opportunity for our partners and supporters to acknowledge today's challenges while highlighting significant opportunities for our future. COVID-19 has changed the way all of us live, learn, and work, but it has not changed our mission or our focus on making Wilson the best place to be!

#### Featured Speakers



**Mr. Leslie Boney**  
Director, Institute for Emerging Issues  
Vice Provost, Outreach and Engagement  
North Carolina State University



**Dr. Lane Mills**  
Superintendent  
Wilson County Public Schools



**Mr. Dante Pittman**  
Hometown Fellow-Lead for NC  
City of Wilson  
UNC School of Government

## Powered By Innovation

#### Exciting News!

The virtual Wilson Forward 2020 Annual Meeting will be hosted in The Gig East Exchange and powered by Greenlight!

Known as the technological hub of Eastern NC, Wilson is a place where the WiFi signal is strong and our citizens' minds even stronger. The Gig East Exchange is an example of Wilson's growing reputation as a forward thinking community. Gig East is a hub for everyday entrepreneurs, tech startups, remote workers, and anyone who values innovation in action.

In 2015, Wilson was one of five communities selected by the Institute of Emerging Issues to participate in InnovateNC, an intensive two-year, cross-city learning collaborative to expand innovation economies. Wilson's Gig East Exchange emerged from this initiative to encourage entrepreneurial and community success and explore next generation technology.



[Read More Here](#)

## Building Future Leaders

### Wilson Leadership Institute



*Pictured Above: Dan Gerlach and Eliot Smith*

Dan Gerlach (Dan Gerlach LLC) met with the participants of the Wilson Leadership Institute this month and shared insight and experiences that have shaped his perspective and approach to leadership. Eliot Smith (Farris & Thomas) also met with the class, and he offered advice and best practices in cultivating support and resources through fundraising.

In 2015, Wilson Forward partnered with the Wilson Chamber of Commerce and Wilson Economic Development Council to offer the Wilson Leadership Institute. The Wilson Leadership Institute is designed specifically to identify, train, and deploy individuals with interest in representative leadership positions in and for Wilson. We look forward to seeing how this cohort of leaders applies their experience in service to Wilson!

[Read More Here](#)



### Become a Supporter Today!



The success of Wilson Forward is dependent on the partnerships we have with our local community, and many of our partners provide annual investments to support our organization. Wilson Forward operates on a modest budget, and we are funded through the steadfast support of our city and county governments as well as every sector represented through our Board of Directors. Over the past few years, we have established a more significant investment from the corporate and private sector of our community, and in the years ahead, we will strive to build even stronger relationships with our local business partners and individual community members.

[CONTRIBUTE TODAY!](#)

## COMMUNITY PARTNER EVENTS

### Upcoming Community Partner Events & Programs

**NCCARE360**

Looking Upstream: Using NCCARE360 to Mitigate Disparities in the Social Drivers of Health

Part 1: Introduction to NCCARE360 9/22/20  
Part 2: Food and Housing Security 10/20/20  
Part 3: Employment and Childcare 11/17/20  
Part 4: Individual Patient Voluntary Transportation 12/22/21

Area LHMC  
AHEC

**WSPC VIRTUAL COLOR RUN**

LIVE LIFE IN COLOR!!  
5k, 10k & 1 mile  
VIRTUAL RUN

Sept. 16, 2020 8am - 10am  
Sept. 27, 2020 9pm - 11pm

Help us celebrate life in recovery by participating in this annual event.

Register online @ [www.runtheeast.com](http://www.runtheeast.com)

**TRAUMA AND INCARCERATION RESOURCES**

The Impact of Incarceration on Communities, Families and Children

October 13, 2020 • Time 7:00 p.m. virtual  
Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94659390338?pwd=cZTbndJMXZyYnVObE04V3oRmpzZz0>

Dawn Biagrove of EmancipateNC  
Kristie Puckett-Williams of The Justice League

This FREE event will include:  
The new engagement laws  
Testimonials from returning citizens  
Trauma, Incarceration & COVID  
Video ads from community vendors

Registration: Eventbrite.com  
CONTACT: **DR. CAROL WHITE** - [edchair2018@gmail.com](mailto:edchair2018@gmail.com)  
(NAACP of Wilson)

**GET COUNTED COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS**

IT'S IMPORTANT  
IT'S SAFE  
IT'S EASY

Look for your census information in the mail beginning March 12.

**THE SPOT**

THE SPOT 2020

REMOTE LEARNING CENTER  
NATURAL PLAY SPACE

[WWW.THEWILSONSPOT.ORG](http://WWW.THEWILSONSPOT.ORG)

**WCS TECH HOTLINE**

WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS  
**TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**  
Students, Parents, & Staff

**399.7717**

WILSON FORWARD IS PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS! IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP - LET US KNOW! WE WOULD LOVE TO INCLUDE YOU IN OUR NEXT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

PLEASE EMAIL CAMERON COCHRAN AT [CCOCHRAN@WILSONFORWARD.ORG](mailto:CCOCHRAN@WILSONFORWARD.ORG) IF YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE AND EVENT

Please contact us with any questions or inquiries  
Paula Benson, Executive Director  
[PBenson@WilsonForward.org](mailto:PBenson@WilsonForward.org)

OR

Connect with us through the links below!

Cameron Cochran, Associate Director  
[CCochran@WilsonForward.org](mailto:CCochran@WilsonForward.org)

