THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

2:00PM  CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

1. Addressing an Epidemic: Opioids in rural communities, Salon F
   Introduction: Dr. Anu Rao-Patel, Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC
   Alan Dellapenna, NC Division of Public Health
   Steve Mange, NC Department of Justice
   Jamie Treadaway, Catawba Valley Community Foundation

2. The Rural Brain Gain: Engaging new & returning young adults & families, Salon C
   Susan Jakes, NC Cooperative Extension
   Ben Winchester, University of Minnesota Extension

3. Rural School Leaders: A powerful (and under-utilized) economic development voice in your community, Creedmoor
   Brenda Berg, BEST NC

   Dr. Yolanda Burwell, REDI Faculty

5. Small-Town Entrepreneurship Workshop: Case study, resources, networking, Salon D
   Tara Campbell, NC Community Development Initiative
   Liz Parham, NC Main Street, NC Department of Commerce
   Christy Raulli, UNC School of Government
   Leslie Schlender, Town of Elkin
   Jamie Wells & Ben Van Hooser, Greenville, KY

3:30PM  PLENARY SESSION, Glenwood Ballroom

Welcome and Overview: Patrick Woodie, NC Rural Center

Community Snapshot: Linda Joyner, Princeville Mayor Pro-Tem, & Gregory Bethea, Interim Princeville Town Manager

OPENING KEYNOTE: Renewing Kinston—A recipe for homegrown leadership
   Introduction: Patrick Woodie, NC Rural Center
   Speaker Introduction: Mayor BJ Murphy, City of Kinston
   Speaker: Vivian Howard, Chef, Author, & Host of “A Chef’s Life”

5:00PM  RURAL RESOURCE FAIR / ASSEMBLY RECEPTION, Salon III, Salon IV, & Glenwood Ballroom Hallway

6:30PM  DINNER & ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET, Glenwood Ballroom
7:00AM  REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:00AM  MORNING WELCOME: Patrick Woodie, NC Rural Center

Community Snapshot: Sarah Thompson, Southwestern Commission, & Jamilla Hawkins, NC Rural Center

8:10AM  MORNING KEYNOTE: Claiming Our Future
Introduction: John Stokes, BB&T
Speaker Introduction: Napoleon Wallace, NC Department of Commerce
Speaker: Kelly Ryan, President and CEO, Incourage

Community Snapshot: Velva Jenkins, Brunswick Community College

9:00AM  PANEL: INSPIRING YOUNG RURAL LEADERS
Connecting with the next generation of rural leaders in your community.
Introduction: Nelle Hotchkiss, NC Electric Cooperatives
Moderator: James E. Ford, 2014-15 NC Teacher of the Year, and Equity Consultant
Panelists:
Dan Gerlach, Golden LEAF Foundation, & Chase Conner, Golden LEAF Scholar
Scott Marlow, RAFI, & Tenita Solanto, Green Panda Farms
Noran Sanford, Growing Change, & Derek Cummings, Growing Change Participant

Community Snapshot: Heidi York, Person County

10:20AM  BREAK

Community Snapshot: TF Congleton, Natural Capital Investment Fund

10:35AM  PANEL: LEADERSHIP, FAITH, AND COMMUNITY
Faith-based leaders share their critical and evolving contributions to rural North Carolina.
Introduction: Jason Gray, NC Rural Center
Moderator: John Parker, CED consultant, and faculty at Wake Forest Divinity School
Panelists:
Andy Anderson, Vice Chair of the NC Rural Center Board of Directors, Community Innovations Development Director, and Pastor
Rev. Maria King, Church Vitality Strategist, United Methodist Church, Western North Carolina Conference
Rev. Brandon Wrencher, Pastor and architect of a new United Methodist faith community in Greensboro

Community Snapshot: Nick Byrd, McDowell County Health Coalition

12:15PM  LUNCH & CLOSING PRESENTATION
Blessing: Leslie Boney, Institute for Emerging Issues
“Don’t Tell Me Why We Can’t Do It, Just Tell Me How”
How Greenville, Kentucky, Claimed Its Future
Introduction: Misty Herget, NC Rural Center
Presenters:
Ben Van Hooser, City Administrator, Greenville, KY
Jamie Wells, Chairperson, Greenville Tourism Commission

1:15PM  CLOSING REMARKS: Patrick Woodie, NC Rural Center

1:30PM  ADJOURN