





Wilson Forward appreciates the support and partnership provided by the Wilson Times.

# Impact Wilson

**April 2020** 

A Wilson Forward Newsletter



### **Anticipating Our New Normal**

"Are we there yet?" All of us probably asked that question while traveling somewhere in our childhood, and now, we are asking the same question as we navigate a much different journey. Resigned to the fact that we will certainly have new normals, we are simply eager to reach the destination of our new normalcy.

Over the past few weeks, our inboxes have been inundated with messages related to COVID-19; many have been informational and some have been inspirational. We have appreciated the creativity and thoughtfulness from various perspectives, but lately, many messages seem to reflect similar words to what we just recently sent or received. Perhaps, we are all struggling to say something new about the "unprecedented" and "uncertain" circumstances of COVID-19.

This virus has changed everything - many of our community members are out of work, healthcare workers have moved to the front line, teachers have transitioned to virtual platforms, and our small

time and appreciate some positive changes to our healthcare, education, and workforce systems. As an organization that connects and gathers people, Wilson Forward has temporarily re-defined our approach to business. We have established successful gatherings through virtual platforms, but we miss the handshakes and hugs. While we have focused on operational tasks that are usually pushed lower on our priority list, we have

businesses have completely re-written their business plans. Hopefully, we will be able to look back at this

been consistently amazed by the work of our community members and partners; the many acts of kindness have been heartwarming. Our thoughts are with each of you, and we are so incredibly grateful for the community that surrounds us.

We move forward together, even while apart.

#### Wilson Wellness Collaborative

#### Community Partners Stay Connected to Support Health and Wellness in Wilson

On Thursday, April 23rd, approximately 60 community partners attended the virtual meeting of the Wilson Wellness Collaborative. We were particularly grateful for updates provided by Teresa Ellen (Wilson County Health Dept), Candice Rountree (Wilson County DSS), Mark Holyoak (Wilson Medical), Ron Hunt (Wilson County Government), and Cheryl Wilson (Wilson County Schools). As we navigate the impact of COVID-19, we are fortunate to have such a strong base of connected and supportive partners.



Pictured Above: 25 of the participants who joined the April 23rd Wilson Wellness Collaborative meeting

Read More About The Wilson Wellness Collaborative Here

# After School Program Developments

#### **Now Hiring** Middle School After School

# **Program Director**



The Wilson Family YMCA is seeking a Program Director to lead the design, implementation, and sustainable operation of a high quality, hands-on accessible after school program for all middle school students in Wilson County, NC. The future middle school after school network will create opportunities for middle schoolers to discover their strengths, explore their passions, and help their young minds grow with a focus on health and wellness. The Healthcare Foundation of Wilson has endowed the future success and wellbeing of our community's youth by entrusting the YMCA to lead and sustain the after school network. The new director will design and implement the program, coordinate a network of community service providers to create impactful opportunities for middle school students as program participants, evaluate program providers, measure program outcomes, and provide leadership for a team to successfully implement and sustain the program. Contact Kathie Davis, Executive Director of the Wilson Family YMCA at <a href="mailto:kdavis@wilsonymca.org">kdavis@wilsonymca.org</a> for more information. Click Here For Full Job Description



#### 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!

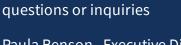
**COMMUNITY PARTNER EVENTS** 

# Upcoming Community Partner Events & Programs

WILSON FORWARD







Please contact us with any

Paula Benson, Executive Director PBenson@WilsonForward.org

Cameron Cochran, Associate Director

CCochran@WilsonForward.org







