

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2013



CONTACT

Jon Yarian
jon@consultseachange.com
843.425.5312

INAUGURAL GOODBUSINESS SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 20 IN CHARLESTON

Groundbreaking event will gather entrepreneurs, innovators, experts and more for sessions on alternative business models, marketing, sourcing locally and financing for the next big idea

CHARLESTON, SC – May 9, 2013 – Lowcountry Local First (LLF), a nonprofit dedicated to growing Charleston’s local living economy, today announced that it will host the inaugural [GOODBusiness Summit](#), a one-day local business event focused on sharing ideas and creating helpful relationships with mentors, experts and supporters. The summit will take place on Thursday, June 20 at the Charleston Museum with speakers, sessions and networking from 8am to 5pm and a party to follow.

“This will be a practical, hands-on, nuts-and-bolts learning experience for local entrepreneurs and business owners,” said LLF Executive Director Jamee Haley. “The summit is much more than a celebration of local business – it’s an opportunity to pitch an idea, meet a collaborator, learn from a mentor and make connections that will make a real impact on your bottom line.”

The GOODBusiness summit will feature presentations from successful businesses leaders that have taken innovative approaches to organizational structure, company culture and strategic growth, including Natalie Chanin of [Alabama Chanin](#), David Dobson of [Urban Electric Co.](#), Eric Henry of [T.S. Designs](#) and Paul Saginaw of [Zingerman’s Community of Businesses](#). The event will also include interactive breakout sessions and a “marketplace of ideas” where local entrepreneurs will pitch business concepts to a live panel of experts. Click [here](#) for the full agenda.

“Learning from local business leaders and leaning on my support network of entrepreneurs made a huge impact on my business,” said Chris Fisher, President of Fisher Recycling and an LLF board member. “The GOODBusiness Summit is a brilliant way to foster those important relationships and provide an open environment of learning and mutual support.”

Charleston’s first and only summit focused exclusively connecting and empowering local businesses, the GOODBusiness Summit emphasizes the need for a triple-bottom line perspective that recognizes people and place with profit. According to analysis and planning group Civic Economics, for every \$100 spent at a locally-owned business, \$45 goes back into the community as opposed to only \$14 from a national chain store.

Click [here](#) for the full agenda and [here](#) to register (attendance is limited). To learn more about sponsoring the summit, email info@lowcountrylocalfirst.org.

About: Lowcountry Local First is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that seeks to cultivate an environment of success for local independent businesses and farmers. Through its Buy Local, Eat Local and Local Works Initiatives, LLF raises awareness about the positive fiscal and societal benefits of supporting a local living economy and assists local businesses with enhancing their growth and visibility. For more information, visit lowcountrylocalfirst.org.

TO LEARN MORE: Visit lowcountrylocalfirst.org or email joanna@lowcountrylocalfirst.org for more information; find us on Twitter: @lowcountrylocal and facebook: [facebook.com/LowcountryLocalFirst](https://www.facebook.com/LowcountryLocalFirst).

GOODBusiness Summit Sponsors: Wills Massalon and Allen, LLC, Lowcountry Housing Trust, Verde, Charleston Museum, Money with a Mission, 1600 Meeting Street.

###