**POST SECONDARY CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT**

The Presidents of the seven principal public and private Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) in the tri-county region or their representatives met on March 4, 2015 at the request of the Tri-County Cradle to Career Collaborative (TCCC) to discuss issues of common interest and concern to the region.

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| Charleston Southern University-Jairy Hunter, President | The College of Charleston-Glenn McConnell, President |
| The Citadel-Sam Hines, Provost | Medical University of South Carolina-David Cole, President |
| Clemson University-Jim Clements, President | Trident Technical College-Kim Hallin, Assoc. Vice President |
| University of South Carolina-Harris Pastides, President | |

They agreed in principle at this meeting to form a collaboration under the auspices of the TCCC for the overarching purpose of increasing the number of individuals with degrees or certificates in the region prepared for the modern workforce.

To implement this Agreement, a **Post-secondary Completion Consortium** is established with support from the TCCC with a goal to increase the number of adults 25 and older with post-secondary degrees (two- and four-year) or certificates in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester Counties (Core Indicator). Three areas of emphasis have been tentatively identified:

1) Improving the alignment of current degree programs with workforce requirements in the region.

2) Attracting and supporting adults in the region to return to a local institution to complete a degree

or certificate.

3) Closing the gap in enrollment and completion rates between higher income, mostly White

students and lower income, mostly African American and Hispanic students

Each President has identified a senior representative authorized to act on behalf of the IHE to serve on the Consortium. Once constituted this Consortium, in coordination with the TCCC, will:

a) Set its own agenda aimed at making progress toward the areas of emphasis outlined above.

b) Recommend a target rate of improvement in the college degree and certificate completion rates for adults within   
 the tri-county region, for approval by the Presidents and the TCCC Board

c) Consider additional areas of common interest for collaborative work to include:

- Aligning High School Completion and Post-secondary entrance requirements in collaboration with the four

School Districts,

- Reviewing Math curriculum and requirements at the college level in order to provide a set of entry level   
 standards with which the high schools may align

- Serving as a forum for review, analysis and accomplishment of collaborative initiatives which

two or more IHEs may from time to time wish to explore

d) Identify a resource to serve as Convener to organize and facilitate meetings for the network

e) Serve as the Guiding Team for a collaborative Network comprised of stakeholders in the tri-county region

committed to making progress on established goals and the Core Indicator.

f) Report its progress periodically to the TCCC Board and to the Presidents, who will meet at least annually for this   
 purpose.

The TCCC agrees to provide ‘backbone’ (staff) support for the Consortium and Network, and to work with the IHEs to support initiatives that are data-based and likely to enhance student post-secondary success.