



Dear Chamber Member,

Huntsville/Madison County has experienced astounding growth and prosperity in recent years. To support this growth and ensure continued success as a destination region for jobs and quality of life, the Chamber has been working with our education and workforce partners to prepare our students for college and the workplace—both of which will help build a stronger economy.

The Chamber is fortunate to represent more than 2,000 businesses in our community. As a result, we are uniquely positioned to lead this work and support educators as they prepare students in Huntsville/Madison County for smart futures here in A Smart Place.

You will notice that included in your annual Membership Invoice is an opportunity to make a voluntary contribution to the Chamber Foundation. The purpose of Foundation is to lead and support workforce development and education efforts that will ensure our region has sufficient quantity and quality of talent to meet employer needs and support sustained growth. This requires industry, education and public sector stakeholders working together and investing in classrooms today to develop the workforce of tomorrow.

In 2017, the Foundation will lead an Industry Insight professional development program focused on providing resources and knowledge to 9th grade career prep teachers in Huntsville, Madison City and Madison County Schools. Our goal is to give our teachers the tools they need to make the required 9th grade Career Prep class a much richer experience which results in our young people making more informed career choices. Your investment in the Chamber Foundation will impact over 4,200 students a year.

Ensuring that students are fully prepared for college and the workplace is one of the most important things we can do to build a strong economy. Your contribution to the Foundation is fully tax deductible donation; all who make a contribution will receive a letter acknowledging the contribution. There is no need to write a separate check, the Chamber will transfer the funds to the Foundation. Should you choose not to contribute please strike through the voluntary amount listed and pay only the Membership dues amount. We are grateful for your support of the Chamber and look forward to the positive impact that the Foundation's work will have on the region's Workforce development.

We hope you will choose to invest in A Smart Place by supporting the Chamber Foundation and this important work. For more information on the Chamber Foundation, please visit: bit.ly/ChamberFoundation

Sincerely,

Chip Cherry, President & CEO