

# HomegrownLeaders

PRESENTED BY THE N.C. RURAL CENTER

April 28-30, 2026

Healthcare Foundation of Wilson | 233 Nash St. N. | Wilson, NC 27893

## Tuesday, April 28, 2026

<b>Tuesday, April 28, 2026</b>		
<b>8:30 – 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Arrival &amp; Registration</b> (light breakfast provided)	
<b>9:00 – 10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Training Overview</b>	<p><b>Patrick Woodie</b>   President and CEO   NC Rural Center</p> <p><b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center</p>
<b>10:00 – 10:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Icebreaker</b>	
<b>10:15 – 10:20 a.m.</b>	<b>Transition Break</b>	
<b>10:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.</b>	<p><b>The Regional Economy &amp; Forces Driving Change in Rural NC</b></p> <p><i>Understand the major drivers of modern rural life that influence our people, communities, and businesses, and learn how those drivers operate in the local economy using a data lens.</i></p>	<b>Dalton Bailey</b>   Research and Data Manager   NC Rural Center
<b>12:20 – 1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch</b> (provided)	
<b>1:00 – 2:30 p.m.</b>	<p><b>From Scarcity to Abundance: Building Vibrant Rural Communities with Asset-Based Development</b></p> <p><i>Many times, rural communities are defined by what they lack. What if your community already had everything it needed to build a vibrant, thriving community? We will explore the key components of Asset-Based Community Development and how to apply them to your community.</i></p>	<b>Morgan Talton</b>   Church Engagement Specialist   NC Rural Center
<b>2:30 – 2:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>2:45 – 4:55 p.m.</b>	<p><b>Emotional Intelligence</b></p> <p><i>Learn how emotions are communicated, how they are helpful, and how to manage them when working with others.</i></p>	<b>Mark Molitor</b>   Trainer   Lead Effectively

4:55 p.m.	Wrap-Up	<b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center
<b>Wednesday, April 29, 2026</b>		
9 – 9:30 a.m.	Arrival & Networking (light breakfast provided)	
9:30 – 9:35 a.m.	Welcome & Overview	<b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center
9:35 – 11:30 a.m.	<b>The Building Blocks of Community Economic Development</b> <i>Understand the Rural Center framework for community economic development, which includes physical assets, social and civic vibrancy, business growth, talent development, and authentic leadership.</i>	<b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center
11:30 – 11:40 a.m.	Break	
11:40 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<b>Dynamics of Privilege and Power: Why It Matters- Part 1</b> <i>Define privilege and power and their impact on rural communities by discussing types of privilege and how they are used in everyday life. Participants will also address disparities in access and opportunity by participating in a powerful privilege exercise.</i>	<b>Morgan Talton</b>   Church Engagement Specialist   NC Rural Center
12:15 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (provided)	
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	<b>Dynamics of Privilege and Power- Part 2</b>	<b>Morgan Talton</b>   Church Engagement Specialist   NC Rural Center
2:00 – 2:10 p.m.	Break	
2:10 – 4:00 p.m.	<b>Handling Conflict</b> <i>Learn various approaches to handling conflict, how each has advantages and disadvantages, and the essential skill sets, especially listening/inquiry.</i>	<b>Mark Molitor</b>   Trainer   Lead Effectively
4:00 – 4:15 p.m.	Travel to Networking Event	
4:15 – 6 p.m.	<b>Alumni Spotlight and Networking Event</b> (light bites and drinks provided)	<b>Casita Brewing Company</b> 217 South St. S, Wilson, NC 27893

## Thursday, April 30, 2026

<b>9 – 9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Arrival &amp; Networking</b> (heavy breakfast provided)	
<b>9:30 – 9:35 a.m.</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Overview</b>	<b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center
<b>9:35 – 11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Collaborative Leadership</b> <i>This session addresses some of the unique challenges of working with those outside of your organization and provides insights and approaches that may enhance effectiveness.</i>	<b>Mark Molitor</b>   Trainer   Lead Effectively
<b>11:30 – 11:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>11:50 a.m.–1:25 p.m.</b>	<b>Envisioning a Better Future</b> <i>Participants will use case scenarios to plan and design a "better future" in a rural community. This session combines the Building Blocks, data trends, and leadership decisions. They will also reflect on and share concepts from the training and how they can implement them in their communities.</i>	<b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center
<b>1:25 – 1:35 p.m.</b>	<b>Transition Break</b>	
<b>1:35 – 1:55 p.m.</b>	<b>Presentation of Certificates of Completion and Class Picture</b>	<b>Olaunda Green</b>   Director of Leadership Training   NC Rural Center  <b>Chris Este</b>   Chief Program Officer   NC Rural Center
<b>1:55 p.m.</b>	<b>Final Remarks &amp; Adjourn</b> (boxed lunch provided)	