



## **2019 Accomplishments**

### **Member Services:**

- Hosted 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Expo to a sell-out crowd
- Established Marketing Committee
- Continued work with the Latino Advisory Council

### **Community & Leadership Development:**

- Leadership Dalton-Whitfield and the Emerging Leaders Institute completed another successful year adding 67 new program graduates.
- The Leadership Dalton-Whitfield class of 2019 sponsored a destination wall mural peacock in downtown Dalton as their class project.
- Held a successful Dalton Day event for State Legislators and top elected officials.

### **Economic Development:**

- Q CELLS now employing 650 people since construction complete in February 2019, and manufacturing 10,000 solar panels a day
- CJ Logistics locates in an existing building and employs 150 to serve Q CELLS
- Received \$950,000 sewer expansion grant serving south end of Whitfield County
- Prodigy Disc – Newly located here, employing local people, and serving our recreation departments with disc golf course design and implementation
- Core Scientific Data Center – \$42 million investment and 60 jobs across 2 new facilities in the city of Dalton, one in use and one under construction
- Hosted International Consulate Tour with 30 consul generals in attendance for 2 day visit to Whitfield County
- Development of new rail serve industrial park where White Flyer Targets is currently under construction

# **Launched the Believe Greater Dalton Community Strategy for Greater Dalton**

## **Believe Greater Dalton**

### **Education Partnership:**

- Published community-wide baseline report showing community level data, aggregated data from both public K-12 school systems as one
- Creation of Education Leadership Council and six Collaborative Action Teams with over 100 volunteers focused on education in our community

### **Downtown:**

- Partnered with DDDA to commission a downtown master plan created by the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at UGA

### **Entrepreneurship:**

- Celebrated the grand opening of the Dalton Innovation Accelerator, the new hub for entrepreneurship in our community in the Landmark Building.
- Winner of inaugural PitchDIA competition went on to receive an investment on Shark Tank

### **Housing:**

- Commissioned a comprehensive study of our local housing market in early 2018 to establish current conditions, future demand, and next steps
- Providing housing options for the 62% of those making more than \$40K at a job in Whitfield County but choosing to live elsewhere, as well as those considering relocating here, remains at the center of the Believe Greater Dalton strategic plan

### **Community Pride:**

- “When You’re in D-Town” video launched at last year’s Chamber banquet went viral with over 130,000 views and was recently awarded Grand Award in the Digital division at the Association for Chamber of Commerce Executives’ Awards for Communications Excellence
- Working together with the Convention & Visitors Bureau, Downtown Dalton Development Authority, and the Creative Arts Guild, we are developing a community pride branding campaign to define and differentiate Dalton as an ideal place to live, work, and play
- Gratefull, a free, community-wide Thanksgiving celebration, taking place on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-1:30pm