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Responsive Technology Partners, Inc. to Participate in Greater Vidalia® Center for Rural Entrepreneurship

Vidalia GA, April 20, 2023 — The Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber held a groundbreaking ceremony at Ronnie A. Dixon City Park in honor of the new Greater Vidalia[®] Center for Rural Entrepreneurship on Monday April 17th. The large gathering included the Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber team and board members, local business owners, as well as elected officials and community members.



(Pictured L-R: State Senator Blake Tillery; Sean Moxley, President, Garbutt Construction; Toombs County Commissioner Chair David Sikes; City of Vidalia Mayor Doug Roper; Matt Richardson, Pre-Construction Manager, Garbutt Construction; Kevin Palmer, Architect, DPR Architecture; Michele Johnson, President/Executive Director, Greater Vidalia® Chamber/Toombs County Development Authority; Toombs County Development Authority Chair Tim Truxel; Representative Leesa Hagan, Greater Vidalia® Chamber Chair Mike Hagan; and Steven McComas, CEO, Responsive Technology Partners)

"This is a milestone day in rural Georgia," said Steven McComas, MPA, MBA, CPA, CGMA and CEO of Responsive Technology Partners, Inc. Four years ago McComas, along with Michele Johnson, President of the Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber / Toombs County Development Authority jointly developed the vision to construct a regional center that fosters, promotes and accelerates existing and new start-up businesses through incubation, coworking, mentorship and funding and strategic support in rural Southeast Georgia. With the unwavering support from the State of Georgia, City of Vidalia, The Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber, Toombs County Development Authority, and area private sector companies, the historic groundbreaking took place.

"Six years ago, Responsive Technology Partners started its humble beginnings in Vidalia, Georgia. With the mission to provide world-class customer service through industry-leading IT solutions that make every customer feel as if they are our only customer, RTP has been blessed to grow throughout the Southeast. Clearly, with a defined vision, mission, core values and business plan, one can start and grow a business from anywhere. That is why today I am pleased to announce our Southeast Georgia RTP team will be a prominent tenant in this visionary Center with goals of growing its talented engineering staff to work not only on area projects but also with those clients around the United States remotely," said Mr. McComas.



(Pictured: Responsive Technology Partners, Inc. Vidalia Team; center-right: Steven McComas, CEO)

"With the continued flight of hometown young talent to urban opportunities, the Center is a place where our best will see a true chance to stay home, start/grow a business and raise their families in our region. 97% of all State of Georgia businesses employ fewer than 50 workers. Furthermore, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, approximately 50% of small businesses fail within the fifth year. Our prayer is that this new facility will foster required resources to positively address these facts to deliver a vibrant economic activity in the Greater Vidalia region," said Mr. McComas.

The groundbreaking ceremony included speakers John Koon, Emcee/Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber Chair 2021; Tim Truxel, Toombs County Development Authority Chair 2023; Mike Hagan, Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber Chair 2023; Doug Roper, Mayor, City of Vidalia; David Sikes, Chair, Board of Commissioners of Toombs County; State Representative Leesa Hagan; State Senator Blake Tillery; Michele Johnson, President/Executive Director, Greater Vidalia[®] Chamber/Toombs County Development Authority.

The Greater Vidalia[®] Center for Rural Entrepreneurship is a Southeast Georgia regional initiative designed to stimulate the establishment and growth of entrepreneurial companies by providing co-working, incubation, mentoring, technology tools, strategic support in a collaborative downtown environment. Future entrepreneurs can have direct access to the guidance and expertise of the Greater Vidalia Chamber, the Toombs County Development Authority and IT technology provider Responsive Technology Partners, all of whom will be anchor tenants.

For more information, call The Greater Vidalia Chamber at (912) 537-4466 or email <u>info@greatervidaliachamber.com</u>

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