



Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

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Colonial Downs Announces \$50,000 Donation to The Prince William Chamber Foundation

Prince William County, VA – Colonial Downs Group announces \$50,000 donation to The Prince William Chamber Foundation. The celebration of the donation took place October 25th at Preston's Pub in Manassas Park.

The press conference marks the first major donation to The Prince William Chamber Foundation, recently launched by the Prince William Chamber of Commerce. The mission of the new Foundation is to encourage and support business development through workforce development, education, community outreach, and through larger service. Programming for the Foundation focuses on the three pillars of first responders and veterans, women, and workforce education.

The grant from Colonial Downs will allow The Chamber Foundation to launch a major program to address the epidemic of truancy in our community. High schools in Manassas and Manassas Park see 40% truancy rates: leading to delayed graduation, a lower percentage of college bound students, and a lifetime of lower wages. The Prince William Chamber Foundation aims to connect its 1,300 members with junior and seniors in high school to provide an experiential learning opportunity to open the window to new career paths.

"Small and medium sized businesses are the lifeblood of our local economy," says CEO of the Chamber, Bob Sweeney. "Our members will be hiring these students and will be able to use this program as a pipeline for talent into their companies."

Colonial Down is committed to, "Leading by Example," donating through their charitable giving program. "Workforce development is critical in the communities where we partner. We plan to bring 150 good paying jobs to Manassas Park and a well-trained workforce is essential to our success," said Churchill Downs VP of Gaming Operations Jack Sours. "We are proud to partner with the Prince William Chamber on this worthwhile effort."

Members of the news media are cordially invited to attend the official announcement. For more information, contact Caitlin Stephens (cstephens@pwchamber.org).

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About the Prince William Chamber of Commerce: The Prince William Chamber of Commerce is the strongest voice for the business community in the Washington, DC Metropolitan region. Together with our diverse membership, representing nearly 70,000 employees we work to create an environment where business and people thrive. To accomplish this, we focus our efforts in the key areas of business growth, economic development, advocacy, education, and community outreach. In this way, we are building a solid foundation for the success of our business members and our community. For more information, visit our website at www.pwchamber.org or call the Prince William Chamber at 703-368-6600.