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CONTACTS:

Gina L. Kinchlow, MBA – Board Member
Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce
850.294.1569 (mobile)
850.577.0789 (office)
Gina@mybbmc.org or gina@kinchlowandco.com

Michael Akers, MHA, CUDE, CDCFC
Vice President of Finance and Communications
Tallahassee-Leon Federal Credit Union
Office: (850) 576-8134 ext. 5626 or (850) 300-7162
MikeAkers@tlfcu.org

MAYOR GILLUM TO ADDRESS TEEN ENTREPRENEURS

*'Treppies at Minority Chamber's Summer Camp will Get Leadership Lessons
From Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum*

[TALLAHASSEE] It's great to read about leaders. It's even better when you can see them on television, at the movies or in a video. But nothing seems to compare to real-life face time and conversation with someone who can tell you what it means to live the life of a leader. For the budding entrepreneurs at Camp "Treppie, they're five-day experience will include a morning with Tallahassee's leading man; Mayor Andrew Gillum.

On Wednesday morning, June 21 – the third day of the five-day summer camp for teenagers (13-18) interested in starting their own businesses – campers will have a chance to hear Gillum talk about his life journey and the character-building life skills that continue to shape his professional life as the man in charge of running the business of the City of Tallahassee.

Noting that local businesses are the backbone of our economy, Gillum says, "...it is important to get the next generation of business owners started early." Gillum went on to say, "**Camp 'Treppie** is a terrific opportunity for our local teens to explore entrepreneurship, while also learning about the importance of character-building. I look forward to sharing my story with these future business owners and to listening to theirs in return."

On June 19, the Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Tallahassee-Leon Federal Credit Union will unveil a new concept in summer day camps. Touted as the first of its kind in the Big Bend region, **Camp 'Treppie** will run from June 19-23 on the Tallahassee Community College main campus. It is a five-day summer camp for teenagers (ages 13-18), and it effectively combines leadership, entrepreneurship and money management.

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“We recognize entrepreneurship as a viable option for young people as they begin to think about what they will do with their lives,” says Sean Pittman, founder and board chair of the Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce. “But we also believe the best entrepreneurs possess strong leadership skills that reflect character, citizenship and accountability.” Pittman went on to say the BBMC’s summer camp will encourage youth to embrace both of these concepts now if they intend to be at the top of their game in the future.

The camp curriculum is a thoughtful combination of award-winning BIZ KID\$ lesson plans, leadership lessons from Kaufman’s Entrepreneurial Learning Institute, and the successful financial management tools developed for the Mini Billionaires Academy (MBA). Camp facilitators include the senior management team from the Tallahassee-Leon Federal Credit Union, local leaders in the entrepreneurial sector, and trained and vetted volunteers. The tuition is \$199 and covers all camp materials, supplies, daily snacks, and a completion packet. A limited number of scholarships are available.

Interested parents should visit the BBMC website at www.mybbmc.org to download the camp overview, the application, and policies/procedures. The application deadline is June 9 and payment is expected at the time of application submission. Parents may also e-mail CampDirector@mybbmc.org to request the information and ask questions.

The Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce was organized in November of 2012 in response to the looming gap in economic opportunities for minority-owned and woman-owned businesses in Tallahassee and the four contiguous counties. With a mission to stimulate grassroots economic growth and development for minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises, the BBMC has a three-point strategy that collectively addresses key areas of need: advocacy, education and business/professional network integration.

The Tallahassee-Leon Federal Credit Union (TLFCU) is a full service, not-for profit financial cooperative serving Leon, Wakulla, Gadsden, and Jefferson County citizens since 1936. With over 80 years of consistent quality service, the management team and staff are constantly developing new ways to improve the financial stability of its members. TLFCU was named the 2013 Credit Union of the Year by the League of Southeastern Credit Unions and has received state-wide and national awards for its financial literacy initiatives. Their dedication to the community and commitment to service is what makes TLFCU the smart choice for anyone choosing a primary financial institution.

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