



COLUMBIA CHAMBER Gather&Grow

2025 ROI

2025 Gather & Grow Procurement Series:

May 7, 2025 & May 22, 2025

Vendors: 28

Participants registered: 191

Participants attended: 106

SESSION OVERVIEW:

Part I of the Procurement Series occurred on May 7 and featured a Procurement Panel with from Fort Jackson, SC DOT, City of Columbia, Richland County and Goodwill to provide information to businesses on how to become a qualified supplier for their agencies, bid on jobs, provide services, etc. through their agency's Request for Proposal Procurement (RFP) process.

Part 2 of the Procurement Series took place on May 22, in partnership with Goodwill Industries of the Upstate/Midlands South Carolina. The Procurement Matchup brought together small businesses and procurement professionals for a high impact networking and contracting event focusing on access and opportunity. The event featured an overview of Goodwill services, and 28 registered procurement tables, each representing government agencies, corporations, institutions, and businesses with direct procurement decision makers in the room. These professionals came prepared to engage with small business owners, share opportunities, and explore partnerships with the community here in the Midlands.

The Chamber was proud to welcome over 100 attendees, all small business owners and entrepreneurs seeking to grow their business through contracts. Attendees had the opportunity to connect directly with buyers, ask questions about procurement processes, and pitch their products or services in a one-on-one setting. The Procurement Matchup created a unique and productive space for relationship building and real time connections. By eliminating the usual barriers and providing direct access to those who award contracts, the event served to grow economic growth.

WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING?

"Events like this are a powerful reminder of the impact local collaboration can have. From small and minority-owned businesses to major procurement decision-makers, everyone came to the table with the shared goal of building stronger, more inclusive business relationships across our region."

- **Chunsta Miller | Goodwill's VP of Communication and Public Engagement**

"The valuable information we learned about procurement within our local governments and organizations from the amazing panel line-up was invaluable"

- **Payden Mitchell | The Seals of South Carolina**



ONLINE MARKETING

1,257 Session Webpage Views

<https://columbiachamber.com>

SOCIAL MEDIA

(As of 5/28/2025)

9,474 Total Impressions



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