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Trident United Way

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Trident United Way's Young Leaders United Connects Emerging and Established Leaders at Annual Cocktails & Conversations

North Charleston, SC– On April 2nd, 2025, more than 60 emerging and established professionals gathered at the Segra Club for Trident United Way's annual Cocktails and Conversations- an evening designed to foster networking, mentorship and insight across generations of local leaders.

Hosted by [Trident United Way's Young Leaders United](#), Cocktails and Conversations sparked meaningful discussion as nine distinguished table hosts shared their paths to success, offering personal stories, professional insights and networking strategies to the next generation of leaders.

Distinguished table hosts included high ranking professionals from a broad spectrum of industries, including finance, nonprofit management, consulting, and entrepreneurship, including:

- **Cindy Brams**, Shareholder and Not-For-Profit Industry Leaders at Elliot Davis
- **Francine Christiansen**, Owner and Principal at Christiansen Consulting
- **Stephan Christiansen**, Strategic Business and Nonprofit Consultant
- **Tosha Conners**, CEO of My Sister's House
- **Herbert Drayton**, Venture Capitalist and Advocate

- **Walter Fiederowicz**, President of the Board of the Charleston Literary Festival
- **David “D.J.” Hampton II**, President and CEO at Trident United Way
- **Wendy Kopp**, Senior VP and Wealth Management Advisor at Fifth Third Bank
- **David Stasiukaitis**, CEO at Low Country Case & Millwork

Throughout the evening, our distinguished hosts and attendees networked, building strong connections and fostering a supportive community focused on growth and success.

This event featured a visionary keynote address by **Cindy Brams**, who also served as a table host. Brams shared her wisdom on the lasting impact of mentorship in both professional and personal development. Brams emphasized that strong mentorship goes beyond giving advice; it is rooted in connection, trust, and mutual growth.

“Cocktails and Conversations creates a space for seasoned professionals and young leaders to gather, build connections, exchange ideas and inspire each other,” said David “D.J.” Hampton II, President and CEO of Trident United Way. “The energy and wisdom in the room each year is truly remarkable.”

For more information on Trident United Way or to get involved, visit <https://www.tuw.org/young-leaders-united>.

About Trident United Way

Trident United Way has been a catalyst for measurable community transformation in education, financial stability and health in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties.

Trident United Way has a proud history of developing community-wide initiatives, including partnering with dozens of local nonprofit organizations, leading the creation of our community’s 211 Information and Referral Helpline and establishing the Berkeley and Dorchester County Resource Connection Centers.