

**Councilwoman Tara Wicker joins with Community Partners to Launch Christmas
"Care-Connect Initiative"**

Councilwoman Tara Wicker along with Exxon-Mobil, Wampold Companies, EBR School System and others, have launched the District 10 "Care-Connect Initiative". This initiative focuses on giving individuals the opportunity to "Earn While They Learn". Participating partner companies in this initiative will provide volunteer opportunities for local residents who are in need, in exchange for the chance to earn "Care Coupons". These "Care Coupons" can be earned by participants who volunteer their time and talents with local companies. Volunteers will be provided volunteer training, complete with a volunteer resume.

The exchange accomplishes two goals: Not only will participants network and train with reputable local companies, but they will also have the opportunity to receive coupons which they can use to personally and privately shop for gifts for their children during the holiday season.

"This initiative is really about bringing to life, in a meaningful way, the old proverb 'Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day, teach a man to fish and he'll eat for a lifetime.' The District 10 'Care-Connect Initiative' is creating unique 'care' opportunities that will ultimately result in strategic, productive, lasting connections that may otherwise not be possible. It's really about people caring, connecting and helping one another," says Councilwoman Wicker. "I'm EXTREMELY excited and can't wait to see the positive outcome."

Fifty families will be selected to participate in this inaugural event.

Companies and families desiring to participate in the program should call [\(225\) 317-1849](tel:2253171849) for more information.