



Mail



Calendar



Contacts



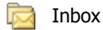
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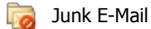
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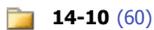
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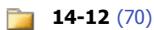
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14-10 (60)



14-11 (76)



14-12 (70)



15-01 (51)



15-02 (32)



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## History Made Today: "Urban League Produces Most Certified Fiber Technicians"

Patrick Graham [pgraham@urbanleaguecc.org]

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 6:16 PM

### Immediate Release

#### Media Contact

Maya Norvel

Director of Marketing and Communications

[maya.norvel@urbanleaguecc.org](mailto:maya.norvel@urbanleaguecc.org)(O) [704.373.2256](tel:704.373.2256) ext 219(M) [757.870.6523](tel:757.870.6523)

#### Urban League Fiber Optic School and Economic Mobility

##### "Urban League Produces Most Fiber Technicians to Help Internet Providers Drive Economic Mobility"

The Urban League of Central Carolinas (ULCC) has produced more nationally certified fiber technicians than any other institution in the Charlotte Region for the past seven years. The City of Charlotte and local media outlets have recently announced several fiber and broadband initiatives in the area.

With a renewed focus on broadband access, the ULCC can increase the economic mobility of low to moderate income families and stimulate consumer growth.

The ULCC has produced over 550 fiber technicians since 2008 to the present. Internet, fiber, and broadband providers have been able to take advantage of the ULCC's talent pool. "The importance of the training the Urban League provides is essential to the infrastructure of our growing broadband industry," says Dr. Patrick Graham, President and CEO of the Urban League of Central Carolinas. "The Urban League's focus on building communities and providing living wage opportunities is consistent with our region's vision for a more educated workforce."

The presence of broadband providers also highlights opportunities to address some of the Charlotte Region's issues with economic mobility. This past year, Harvard University released the study, *Where is the Land of Opportunity? The Geography of Inter-generational Mobility in the United States*, which ranked Charlotte last of 50 major cities for moving people out of poverty. "Access to broadband technology is important to eliminating the technological and economic divides faced by disenfranchised communities," says Graham. "We can deal poverty a double blow if we train people to build the infrastructure that creates access and provides equal opportunities to employment and contracting."

The future success for the Charlotte Region's global competitiveness is tied to its innovation, skill sets of its population, and inclusiveness. The Urban League is an agency that launched a certified broadband and fiber optic initiative eight years ago to provide access to technology and jobs. As the Charlotte Region's largest provider of fiber technician talent, the Urban League and its graduates are poised to help make this community one of the best broadband hubs in the world.

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