

# MISSISSIPPI SBDC

## WEEKLY STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

*"Transforming Mississippi One Small Business at a Time"*

**February 9, 2011**

As part of our commitment to provide you with information that may enhance the effectiveness of your important leadership efforts, we are pleased to deliver this report about our activities on behalf of Mississippi Small Business.

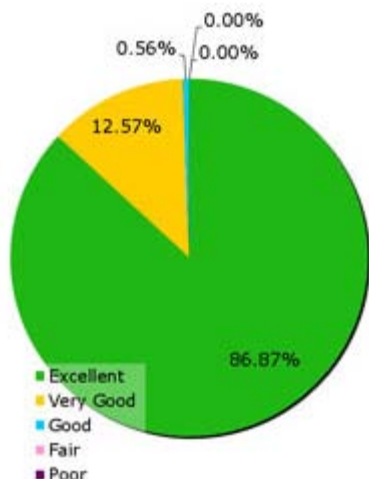
### MSBDC Economic Impact Involvement

Since October 1, 2010

Counseled Clients	743
- Businesses Started	52
--- Jobs Created	204
--- Jobs Retained	216
- Loans Submitted	32
--- Loans Obtained	38

**Total Capital Formation**  
**\$19,005,547**

### Initial Client Satisfaction



Data compiled since October 1, 2010 Initial

### Small Business Spotlight

Depot Bowling



*Pictured: Mike Price (left, owner) Ronald Westbrook (right, counselor).*

#### Depot Bowling

**257 West Beacon Street, Suite 16**

**Philadelphia MS, 39350**

**(601) 656-0770**

[www.depotbowling.com](http://www.depotbowling.com)

Ronald Westbrook, counselor/director at the ECCC MSBDC assisted owner Mike Price, and co-owner Ben Brummett in the planning stages of their business and in securing the financial support need for the actual start-up. Depot Bowling features an array of fun entertainment options suitable for the whole family, including bowling, virtual golf, arcade games, pool tables, and a restaurant, making it an excellent location for group events.

Mr. Price made the follow comments regarding his experience with MSBDC services.

"We were referred by the East Central Planning and

**Rating for the Year:  
Since October 1, 2010**

86.87% Excellent  
12.57% Very Good  
0.56% Good  
0.00% Fair  
0.00% Poor

This week's client Evaluation of Services report includes data from **31 MSBDC Counseling Evaluation Forms with 25 comments by First Time Clients** after their initial counseling session.

**Mississippi Client  
Evaluation of  
Services**

To help the MSBDC improve our services and to better meet the needs of our clients, we ask them to complete the following questionnaire. These are the results of the questionnaires received between the dates of Jan 26-Feb 1.

**Questionnaire Summary**

Were you in business when you came to the MSBDC?

15 Yes

12 No

If yes, how long?

04 0 - 11.9 months

05 1 - 3 years

01 4 - 7 years

03 8 - 15 years

02 15+ years

Was your request for an appointment given prompt attention?

31 Yes

00 No

How long did you have to wait?

16 0 days

04 1 day

04 2 days

02 3 days

02 4 - 7 days

01 8+ days

Development District office to the ECCC SBDC to assist us in the development of our business plan for our new bowling alley in Philadelphia. The professionalism and timely response by Mr. Westbrook to our project was without question a wise move on our part. With his assistance and attention to the details of the business plan we were able to obtain the necessary funding to complete the bowling alley. Thanks to Mr. Westbrook and the ECCC SBDC in helping our business become a reality."

- Mr. Mike Price

The MSBDC wishes Mr. Price & Mr. Brummett best of luck and is proud to have been of assistance in the planning and creation of Depot Bowling

**Our Clients want our Stakeholders to know...**

*\*All comments are direct quotes from first time clients.*

**CLCC MSBDC**

Today was an overall good experience for me and my company.

--- Fulisha Carr, Walthall Co.

**ECCC MSBDC**

The counselor was able to reassure us on a lot of the ideas we have. He gave us ideas we to work on to see our dream to come true.

--- Dwayne Reynolds, Newton Co. .

**HCC**

I feel more focused. I believe we have a starting point and can actually make this idea a reality.

--- Cathy D. Sanford, Warren Co.

**JSU**

I was given specific items to research, and was able to request information on marketing analysis. I am planning to return in about two weeks to discuss what both parties have learned.

--- Paris McDougal, Madison Co.

My counselor Mr. Brown was very kind and he really knew what the SBA 8 A program was all about. I left the session feeling confident about the outcome of the process.

Did your counselor give you specific recommendations?

29 Yes

02 No

Did your counselor have the skills needed to advise you or did the counselor make an appropriate referral?

30 Yes

01 No

Did the counselor give you enough time to express your business concerns?

31 Yes

00 No

Would you use the SBDC program again?

31 Yes

00 No

Would you recommend the SBDC services to others?

31 Yes

00 No

Please rate the business assistance services you received:

27 Excellent

04 Very Good

00 Good

00 Fair

00 Poor

[Find Training Events in your Area!](#)

[Find your local MSBDC counselor!](#)  
[International Trade Questions?](#)  
[Inventor Assistance Help](#)

**We would like to recognize our host institutions!**

[Copiah-Lincoln Community College](#)  
[East Central Community College](#)  
[Hinds Community College](#)  
[Jackson State University](#)  
[Jones County Junior College](#)  
[Mississippi State University](#)  
[The University of Mississippi](#)

--- *Jeffrey Holmes.*

It has been a very good visit. Mr. McDowell has helped me. Would recommend to anyone. Great business atmosphere. Thanks for your help.

--- *James Thomas, Hinds Co.*

I was assisted well and received concise instructions on how to conduct my business plan process.

--- *Wendy Hiller, George Co.*

My counselor was very knowledgeable about all aspects of small business ownership and was able to effectively answer all of my questions and provide advice relevant to my small business needs.

--- *Charlinda M. Florence, Hinds Co.*

Mr. Sydney Brown, my counselor today was very profession and courteous, and demonstrated excellent knowledge in response to all my questions.

*Georgia Cochran, Hinds Co.*

I had a great experience with Mr. Brown. He has given me the tools to move my business ahead and also given advice on how to run a better business.

--- *Sedrick D. Lilley, Hinds Co.*

#### **MSU**

Great insight.

--- *Jean Tucker, Lauderdale, MS.*

Hamp Beatty is an excellent counselor and I feel that with his help I will be successful.

--- *John King, Oktibbeha Co.*

#### **UM MSBDC**

Gather a lot of information to help organize my business plan and future ideas.

--- *Keith Gardner, Bolivar Co.*

It was really helpful and I will use them again.

--- *Cody Dunn, Prentiss Co.*

The staff is very friendly and the counselor very helpful with all my questions. He is also helping me write my business plan and teaching me how to make my business profitable.

--- *Scott Willand, Lafayette Co.*

This was the answers to my prayers. My counselor told me the things I needed to hear. This was the best thing I could have done, was to speak to Mrs. Clayberne who in return turn me on to Mr. J. Carden.

--- *Geoff Denham, Lafayette Co.*

The Mississippi Small Business Development Center Program (MSBDC) - headquartered at the University of Mississippi School of Business - provides free one-on-one, confidential counseling and training to Existing, Start-Up, and Pre-Venture small businesses. Extensive reports, comprehensive training resources, and valuable videos designed to help individuals pursue their entrepreneurial dreams are available to all Mississippians through the [MSBDC website](http://www.mssbdc.org).

Contact a local counselor or register for a workshop via the MSBDC website [www.mssbdc.org](http://www.mssbdc.org) or call our toll free number (MS only. Area codes 662 601 and 228) 1-800-725-7232.

Thank You.

I was given a warm welcome. Learned a lot and will attend other sessions. Thanks.

--- Vern Rodgers, Tate Co.

Mr. Carden was very helpful and I am excited about working on the business plan and meeting with him again.

--- Tiffany Moore, Marshall Co.

The counselor was very knowledgeable and extended a lot of helpful advice.

--- Ray A. Coyle, Desoto Co.

My instructor was very knowledgeable and I learned a lot.

--- Phyllis Herron, Desoto Co.

The best advice so far. Will come back to everyone I get a chance to. Awesome help!

--- Allison Brigrance, Desoto Co.

I was given information on how to develop a business plan and step by step information on how to write it successful. The advisor were very friendly and showed knowledge on the information that they taught.

--- Dorothy Cox, Marshall Co.

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#### **Gulf Coast MSBDC**

This is a very invaluable resource for businesses in their incubatory phase. I will definitely do my best in spreading the word about MSBDC.

--- Loraine Serrano, Jackson MS.

They had some very excellent ideas on marketing and increasing my business knowledge. I feel like I'm going in the right direction!.

--- Erin West, Jackson Co.

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Mississippi Small Business Development Center's Weekly Stakeholder Update

Our mailing address is:  
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