

MISSISSIPPI SBDC

WEEKLY STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

"Transforming Mississippi One Small Business at a Time"

March 30, 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.

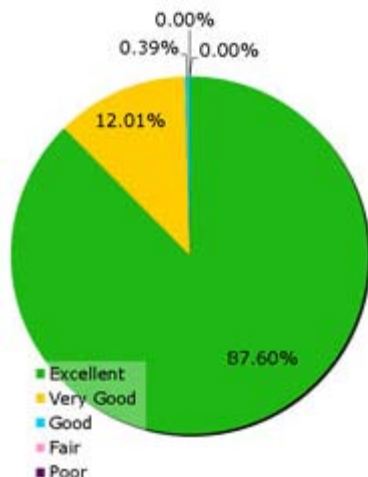
MSBDC Economic Impact Involvement

Since October 1, 2010

Counseled Clients	1019
- Businesses Started	67
--- Jobs Created	260
--- Jobs Retained	261
- Loans Submitted	44
--- Loans Obtained	51

Total Capital Formation
\$21,283,650

Initial Client Satisfaction



Data compiled since October 1, 2010 Initial

Small Business Spotlight

Afrika Book Cafe



Pictured: Tawanna Chapman (left, owner) Sydney Brown (right, counselor)

Afrika Book Cafe

Owners: Tawanna Chapman & Rico Chapman

404 Mitchell Ave, Jackson MS 39216

(769) 251-8976

Afrikabookcafe@gmail.com

Sydney Brown, counselor at the JSU MSBDC assisted business owners Rico & Tawanna Chapman in the opening of their own bookstore and cafe.

Rico Chapman has the following to say about his experience with MSBDC services.

"Upon opening, Mr. Sidney Brown, was instrumental in our developing a business plan and cash flow projections.

His knowledge and patience in dealing with new businesses is an asset and commendable. Mr. Brown worked with us through the entire process as we secured funding to open our business. He made the process very worthwhile and we thank him for his contribution." ---

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

87.60% Excellent
12.01% Very Good
0.39% Good
0.00% Fair
0.00% Poor

This week's client Evaluation of Services report includes data from **16 MSBDC Counseling Evaluation Forms with 13 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 March 16-22.

Questionnaire Summary

Were you in business when you came to the MSBDC?

03 Yes

13 No

If yes, how long?

03 0 - 11.9 months

01 1 - 3 years

00 4 - 7 years

00 8 - 15 years

00 15+ years

Was your request for an appointment given prompt attention?

14 Yes

00 No

How long did you have to wait?

04 0 days

01 1 day

01 2 days

00 3 days

02 4 - 7 days

01 8+ days

Rico Chapman

MSBDC wishes Afrika Book Cafe & the Chapmans much success with their new business venture. Should any further assistance be requested MSBDC will be there.

Our Clients want our Stakeholders to know...

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

HCC MSBDC

I received a lot of helpful information that will put me on the path to opening my business.

--- *Karen Hamberlin, Warren Co.*

JSU

My counselor was helpful and he advised me on different things that I forget. He also helped me with my budget and cash flow projections.

--- *Carly Mangum, Rankin Co.*

It was well educate on the business matters.

--- *Regina Roberts, Madison Co.*

MSU

My experience was a good one I was given information on starting my business. This is a place to help people.

--- *Carmelita Eadie, Lauderdale Co.*

UM MSBDC

I learned a lot of doing business "the right" way with insurance and legal perspectives.

--- *Taylor Steward, Tate Co.*

Very helpful with researching marketing for location and outline for Business Plan and what banks are looking for.

--- *Jennifer Toliver, Panola Co.*

He advised me about the grant program I had questions about and gave me advice how to start everything on my own.

--- *Margeret Crawford, Panola Co.*

Mr. Carden was very informative and an answered all of my questions. He also invited me to contact him w/any future concerns. I will recommend the MSBDC to others.

--- *Mark Camarigg, Lafayette Co.*

Gulf Coast MSBDC

Did your counselor give you specific recommendations?

16 Yes

00 No

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

16 Yes

00 No

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

15 Yes

00 No

Would you use the SBDC program again?

16 Yes

00 No

Would you recommend the SBDC services to others?

16 Yes

00 No

Please rate the business assistance services you received:

13 Excellent

03 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](#)

My contact was very knowledgeable and helpful. She provided a wealth of information I knew and did not know I needed.

--- *Christian Mathew, Harrison Co.*

It was very informative. They were both very helpful. Can't wait till our next meeting.

--- *Brent Cambell, Harrison Co.*

It was very helpful and gave me a really good place to start. The counselor was very knowledgeable and very friendly.

--- *Erika M. Allen, Harrison Co.*

Everyone has been very helpful and kept me on track.

--- *Debby Krachnavy, Jackson Co.*

It was a great experience. The counselor was very kind and easy to explain the process.

--- *Marian Day, Harrison Co.*

Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA.



The Mississippi Small Business Development Center Program (MSBDC) 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.](#)

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

Thank You.

Mississippi Small Business Development Center's Weekly Stakeholder Update

Our mailing address is:
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(662) 915-5001

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