

MISSISSIPPI SBDC

WEEKLY STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

"Transforming Mississippi One Small Business at a Time"

April 13, 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.

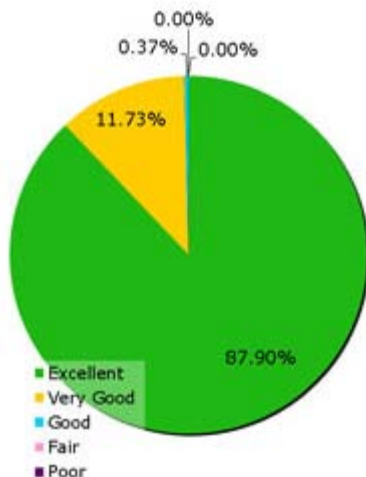
MSBDC Economic Impact Involvement

Since October 1, 2010

Counseled Clients	1113
- Businesses Started	75
--- Jobs Created	276
--- Jobs Retained	276
- Loans Submitted	48
--- Loans Obtained	57

Total Capital Formation
\$22,462,385

Initial Client Satisfaction



Data compiled since October 1, 2010 Initial

Small Business Spotlight

The Flower Station



Pictured: Sharman Hart (owner)

The Flower Station

Owner: Sharman Hart

387 John R. Junkin Dr., Natchez MS 39102

(601) 442-7224

The Flower Station was originally opened with the assistance of the Copiah Lincoln MSBDC, with personal assistance from the counseling of Mr. Bob Russ. Mr. Russ was the Center Director here at CoLin MSBDC from its opening in 1987 until 2005 when he medically retired. Mr.

Russ passed away in March after a long illness and is noted in the area as a major factor in the startup and enhancement of the small business community. He will be sadly missed.

"The Flower Station is a small business started in 1994 and recently purchased by the current owner Sharman Hart. The business provides fresh flowers and plants for all occasions and is located on John R. Junkin Drive in Natchez MS.

The Flower Station, one of several in Natchez, used the

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

87.90% Excellent
11.73% Very Good
0.37% Good
0.00% Fair
0.00% Poor

This week's client Evaluation of Services report includes data from **10 MSBDC Counseling Evaluation Forms with 9 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 23-29.

Questionnaire Summary

Were you in business when you came to the MSBDC?

05 Yes

05 No

If yes, how long?

01 0 - 11.9 months

02 1 - 3 years

01 4 - 7 years

00 8 - 15 years

01 15+ years

Was your request for an appointment given prompt attention?

10 Yes

00 No

How long did you have to wait?

04 0 days

03 1 day

00 2 days

02 3 days

01 4 - 7 days

00 8+ days

CoLin Small Business Development Center to both open under its original owner and the current owner. We appreciate the knowledge and support CoLin MSBDC has provided. Their assistance was, and continues to be, invaluable to our endeavors." --- Sharman Hart.

MSBDC wishes Sharman Hart & The Flower Station continued success and is proud to have been a part of a both long-term and beneficial relationship.

Our Clients want our Stakeholders to know...

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

ECCC MSBDC

Mr. Westbrook answered all our questions at this time and we will be calling upon him in the future with further help. This is a great service that is offered to businesses for guidance and help.

--- *Angie Moore, Leake Co.*

I enjoyed the instructor Mr. Ronald Westbrook very much. He helped my father and I think of possible business situations in regards to our business. Our seminar was based on making and evaluating profit and loss income situations. Mr. Westbrook opened my eyes to staying in control of making positive future business decisions.

--- *Robert Beck II, Neshoba Co.*

JSU

I was given very important information & recommendation regarding my business concerns. Information included things that wouldn't ordinarily come to mind. Thank you.

--- *David Cole, Hinds Co.*

I received A+ assistance and direction to excel my new business, James was very helpful and was able to provide excellent ideas and areas to consider in our new business.

--- *Hassan Najdawi, Lafayette Co.*

My counselor, Sydney Brown, was very helpful. I am so thankful for this wonderful resource!

--- *Tracey RS Evans, Madison Co.*

Experience very informative.

--- *Tricia Conner, Rankin Co.*

UM SBDC

Mr. Carden was very informative in our session and had enthusiasm and confidence in our proposal. He gave us sound advice and was willing to work with us no matter

Did your counselor give you specific recommendations?

10 Yes

00 No

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

10 Yes

00 No

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

10 Yes

00 No

Would you use the SBDC program again?

10 Yes

00 No

Would you recommend the SBDC services to others?

10 Yes

00 No

Please rate the business assistance services you received:

09 Excellent

01 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](#)

how long it took.

--- *Ryan Andrews, Lafayette Co.*

The counselor was extremely helpful and addressed all my concerns.

--- *Brian Morgan, Lafayette Co*

Gulf Coast MSBDC

I've been enthused/blessed to have this opportunity. Exceptional professional consultation with counselor Mitch McDowell, looking forward to future options with this organizations.

--- *Gilbert Ramsey, Harrison Co.*

Great meeting looking forward to the next one. It was a positive experience for me and my future.

--- *Shawn Sedar*

I am very pleased with the with the services that Mitch is providing.

--- *Brenda Cowart Moore, George 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:
P.O. Box 1848
122 Jeanette Phillips Drive
University, MS 38677

Our telephone:
(662) 915-5001

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