

# MISSISSIPPI SBDC

## WEEKLY STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

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

**January 4, 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.

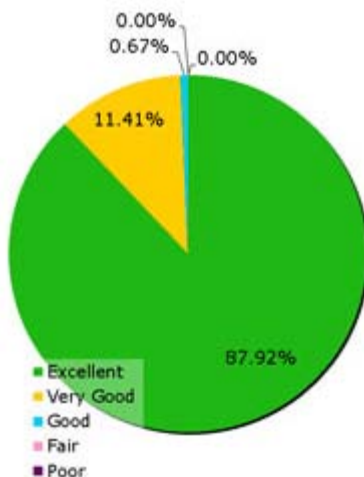
### MSBDC Economic Impact Involvement

Since October 1, 2011

Counseled Clients	585
- Businesses Started	39
--- Jobs Created	86
--- Jobs Retained	221
--- Loans Submitted	15
--- Loans Obtained	19

**Total Capital Formation**  
**\$7,141,925**

### Initial Client Satisfaction



Data compiled since October 1, 2011 Initial

### Small Business Spotlight

Wilson Fitness Plex



*Pictured: Melvin Wilson (left, owner), James Bennett (right, counselor).*

**Wilson Fitness Plex**

**Owner: Melvin Wilson**

**2460 Terry Road, Suite 1500, Jackson MS 39286**

**(601) 862-3266**

James Bennett, Counselor at HCC MSBDC assisted Melvin Wilson, with the start-up process of his business, going over the important first steps such as making a business plan and creating financial projections. Below, Mr. Wilson communicates the highlights of his experience and his satisfaction with MSBDC services.

"Mr. Bennett helped me with my business plan and financial projections. He also helped me decide the kind of structure I needed that would be best for my business. This service is invaluable and I would recommend anyone starting a business to use the service. --- Melvin Wilson.

MSBDC wishes Melvin Wilson, Owner of Wilson Fitness Plex, best of luck in the coming year and will continue to be there as a source of support.

Rating for the Year:  
Since October 1, 2011

87.92% Excellent  
11.41% Very Good  
0.767% Good  
0.00% Fair  
0.00% Poor

This week's client Evaluation of Services report includes data from **20 MSBDC Counseling Evaluation Forms with 17 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 December 14-20.

**Questionnaire Summary**

Were you in business when you came to the MSBDC?

08 Yes  
11 No

If yes, how long?

03 0 - 11.9 months  
03 1 - 3 years  
01 4 - 7 years  
00 8 - 15 years  
01 15+ years

Was your request for an appointment given prompt attention?

19 Yes  
00 No

How long did you have to wait?

05 0 days  
06 1 day  
02 2 days  
03 3 days  
00 4 - 7 days  
00 8+ days

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

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

**ECCC MSBDC**

I totally enjoyed my "learning experience." I hope to use this service further to enhance my business skills.

--- *Debbie Blocker, Leake Co.*

The counselor was very helpful and understanding to me and I really loved the way he explained everything to me and I thank him for his time and service.

--- *Lester W. Gale, Kemper Co.*

**HCC MSBDC**

Excellent service. Mr. Harper did a wonderful job. I now know how to make my dream come true.

*Cody Hessling, Madison Co.*

**JCJC MSBDC**

My husband and I were well pleased with the information we received today. They made us feel very comfortably by filling us in on terminology we wasn't familiar with. We feel we have an increased knowledge to SB loans.

--- *Cedric Watts, Marion Co.*

Crystal provided me with some very valuable information as well as some advice to focus on more. I think that MSBDC @ JCJC is a wonderful program.

--- *Charmaine Keyes, Smith Co.*

Did your counselor give you specific recommendations?

20 Yes

00 No

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

20 Yes

00 No

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

20 Yes

00 No

Would you use the SBDC program again?

20 Yes

00 No

Would you recommend the SBDC services to others?

20 Yes

00 No

Who recommended our services?

01 Bank

03 SBDC Client

00 Legislator

02 Chamber

06 Other

Please rate the business assistance services you received:

16 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](#)

### JSU MSBDC

Great appointment and information.

--- *Robert Grayson Jr. Madison Co.*

Excellent experience, very knowledgeable counselor with specific recommendations for my business. Thank you very much! Very Pleased!

--- *Maruena Smith, Madison Co.*

Thanks Mr. Sydney Brown, for the information and attention given too me for my business needs. Will meet with him in the near future.

--- *Valerie Archie, Madison Co.*

I am leaving very knowledgeable. I am so grateful.

--- *Lillie Washington, Hinds Co.*

### UM MSBDC

Today was a great experience. I learned different aspects of government contracts, lending and banks also learn a lot when it comes to business plans and how we should set it up. Thanks a lot.

--- *Richard Wilson, Desoto Co.*

One of the many important things discussed today was the nine essential questions in business.

--- *Benjamin Saulsberry, Tallahatchie Co.*

I enjoyed learning about how to start a business. How to write a business proposal.

--- *Mound Bayou, Bolivar*

I was fully informed. I am very grateful to have had this training. I was very satisfied.

--- *Linda R. Stout-Coleman, Bolivar Co.*

James Carden spoke with me about my business plan and how to go about preparing to start my business. He was extremely helpful and knowledgeable on the subject of business.

--- *Bridgett Byrum, Lafayette Co.*

Excellent!

--- *Christopher Accettura.*

The whole experience was life changing and so much information was given and very very helpful. Katie was totally professional and caring. Thank you.

--- *Anesay Matthews, Alcorn Co.*

### Gulf Coast MSBDC

Mr. McDowell was very informative. Any questions that were asked he had no problem with helping. I will continue to work with Mr. McDowell, I will also refer more business partners to counseling through SBDC. Enjoy my

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

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](http://www.mssbdc.org) or call our toll free number (MS only. Area codes 662 601 and 228)  
**1-800-725-7232** .

counseling session.

--- Valerie Butler, Harrison Co.

Mitch McDowell gave us the information we need to complete our business plan and apply for funding.

--- Grey Smith, Jackson Co.

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#### Mississippi Small Business Development Center's Weekly Stakeholder Update

Our mailing address is:  
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