

MISSISSIPPI SBDC

WEEKLY STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

"Transforming Mississippi One Small Business at a Time"

March 14, 2012

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.

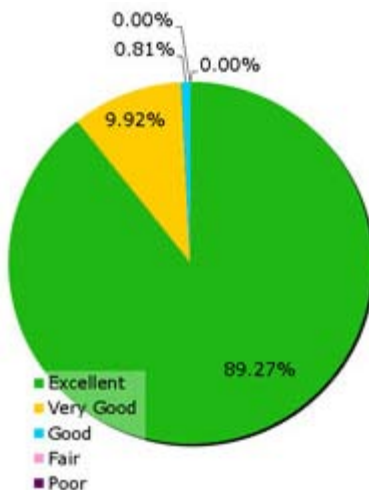
MSBDC Economic Impact Involvement

Since October 1, 2011

Counseled Clients	1050
- Businesses Started	79
--- Jobs Created	184
--- Jobs Retained	274
--- Loans Submitted	27
--- Loans Obtained	30

Total Capital Formation
\$9,815,738

Initial Client Satisfaction



Data compiled since October 1, 2011 Initial

Small Business Spotlight

Sew With Me



Pictured: Linda Lowe(owner, right) Crystal Nail (counselor, left).

Sew With Me

Owner: Linda Lowe

5297 Old Hwy 11, Suite 2, Hattiesburg, MS 39402

601-265-9555

www.sewwithme.com

Looking to open her own sewing business, Linda Lowe attended a MSBDC workshop tailored towards the needs of pre-venture entrepreneurs. After the workshop, Linda began working with JCJC MSBDC Counselor, Crystal Nail, to accomplish all the steps necessary to bring her business to life.

Below, Linda shares her experience and details how MSBDC services helped her.

"Crystal taught the First Steps of Business program. It was very helpful with information about starting a business and deciding if starting a business was what you really want to do. I followed up with Crystal in several days, where we discussed how to write a business plan,

**Rating for the Year:
Since October 1, 2011**

89.27% Excellent

9.92% Very Good

0.81% Good

0.00% Fair

0.00% Poor

This week's client Evaluation of Services report includes data from **19 MSBDC Counseling Evaluation Forms with 16 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 February 29 - March 6.

Questionnaire Summary

Were you in business when you came to the MSBDC?

08 Yes

11 No

If yes, how long?

02 0 - 11.9 months

02 1 - 3 years

01 4 - 7 years

02 8 - 15 years

00 15+ years

Was your request for an appointment given prompt attention?

18 Yes

00 No

How long did you have to wait?

08 0 days

01 1 day

00 2 days

03 3 days

03 4 - 7 days

00 8+ days

which forms needed to be filled out for licenses, setting up a corporation, etc. She was very patient with me and was very knowledgeable of the steps needed to get the business started. She helped me get my cash flow statements and business plan completed to apply for loans. We have stayed in touch and I feel she is a great resources if I have business questions. I would highly recommend this program to people thinking of starting a business but don't have a business degree."

--- Linda Lowe

MSBDC wishes Linda Lowe and Sew With Me best of luck and will continue to be a resource for her business.

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

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

ECCC MSBDC

Mr. Westbrook is very informative and professional. I look forward to working with him in the future if need arises. Received valuable information and material /example packets.

--- Debbie L. Lawrence-Vowell, Neshoba Co.

HCC MSBDC

Mr. James Bennett was Great!!! He was straight to the point and easy to understand.

--- Thomas Brett Barham, Madison Co.

Provided plenty attention to make current financial communications more clear. Simplification about investor's

Did your counselor give you specific recommendations?

19 Yes

00 No

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

19 Yes

00 No

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

19 Yes

00 No

Would you use the SBDC program again?

19 Yes

00 No

Would you recommend the SBDC services to others?

19 Yes

00 No

Who recommended our services?

02 Bank

03 SBDC Client

01 Legislator

01 Chamber

010 Other

Please rate the business assistance services you received:

13 Excellent

05 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](#)

return and expectations.

--- *Eric McVay III*

JSU MSBDC

I feel that the meeting I had with Mr. Holmes was very professional, I have a new outlook on how I need to plan my business and its all legal.

--- *Roy Daniels, Jefferson Davis Co.*

It was a good talking and direction to keeping business going and hope for more business expanding.

--- *Rommie Daniels Sr., Jefferson Davis Co.*

Mr. Holmes was very helpful. The information provided was informative and helped to give focus to obstacles and goals.

--- *Arna A. Shines, Hinds Co.*

Mr. Sydney L. Brown was very informative. I now have the direction which I was seeking to go forward with starting my business.

--- *Thomas J. Pinkton, Hinds Co.*

I received helpful information and now feel more at ease in opening my business.

--- *Erika N. --- Rankin Co.*

UM MSBDC

I was particularly interested in learning about how to develop a business plan and Mr. Carden went over this area of your services with me to my satisfaction.

--- *Ann Marie Bender, Lafayette Co.*

Very informative.

--- *Wandal Hill, DeSoto Co.*

The service I received was outstanding. I need to connect with the SBA for more things on business development.

--- *Terry Johnson, Lafayette Co.*

Gulf Coast MSBDC

Awesome! The help and information makes me more confident in my small business plan. Thank you.

--- *Frank Broussard, Harrison Co.*

Very informative & helpful.

--- *Chris Jones, Harrison Co.*

I got all the information I needed to move forward in my business. Information was clear and left no unanswered questions.

--- *Clarissa Gahagan, Harrison Co.*

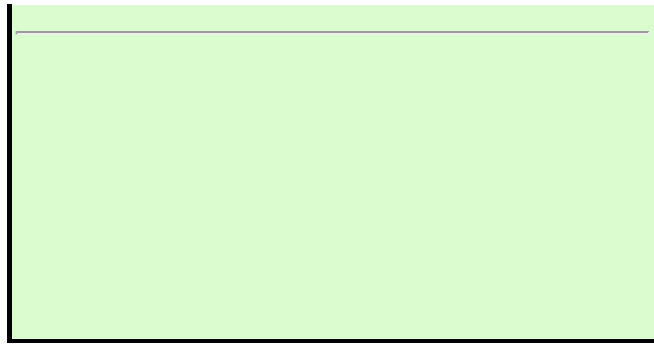
Thanks for being very attentive concerning my needs.

--- *Michael Hoyer, Jackson Co.*

[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 or call our toll free number (MS only. Area codes 662 601 and 228)
1-800-725-7232 .



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Mississippi Small Business Development Center's Weekly Stakeholder Update

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