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# MISSISSIPPI SBDC

## WEEKLY STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

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

**April 11, 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	1203
- Businesses Started	100
--- Jobs Created	239
--- Jobs Retained	294
--- Loans Submitted	41
--- Loans Obtained	45

### Total Capital Formation

**\$13,274,388**

### Initial Client Satisfaction

### Small Business Spotlight

Bucks Ducks & Pups, Inc.



*Pictured: Thomas Allen (owner).*

**Bucks, Ducks & Pups, Inc.**

**Owner: Thomas Allen**

**Highway 61 North, Vicksburg, MS 39180**

**601-636-7545**

Mr. Thomas Allen was assisted by Jim Harper, Director of the MSBDC at Hinds Community College. Together they worked through the crucial steps required to assist Mr. Allen in creating a successful and lasting business. A few of the topics that were covered during the consultation period include creating a business plan, proforma, inventory, and various types of paperwork.

Below, Mr. Allen shares a few words regarding his



Data compiled since October 1, 2011 Initial Counseling Forms.

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

90.20% Excellent  
9.09% Very Good  
0.71% Good  
0.00% Fair  
0.00% Poor

This week's client Evaluation of Services report includes data from **33 MSBDC Counseling Evaluation Forms with 27 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 28 - April 3.

experience of MSBDC services.

"With the help of Mr. Harper I was able to fill a dream I have had for over 20 years, to open a Sporting and Feed Store in Waver County. We need more Programs to help Small Businesses in the State of MS. We are the Back Bone of the tax base in the State of MS."

--- Thomas Allen

MSBDC wishes Mr. Allen best of luck and will continue to be a source of encouragement and assistance for his business.

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

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

#### CLCC MSBDC

We received good direction on our goal and will take the information we received and start applying it to our future. We will be back to talk to Mr. Waller again.

---Pam W., Lincoln Co.

### Questionnaire Summary

Were you in business when you came to the MSBDC?

10 Yes

23 No

If yes, how long?

03 0 - 11.9 months

04 1 - 3 years

01 4 - 7 years

02 8 - 15 years

00 15+ years

Was your request for an appointment given prompt attention?

33 Yes

00 No

How long did you have to wait?

07 0 days

07 1 day

02 2 days

00 3 days

06 4 - 7 days

03 8+ days

Did your counselor give you specific recommendations?

33 Yes

00 No

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

33 Yes

00 No

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

33 Yes

00 No

Gained knowledge of the process and options available to me. In addition made follow-up appointment.

---Fred T., Pike Co

### ECCC MSBDC

I was very impressed about the information I was able to obtain. It allowed me to get a starting point on my business venture.

---Michelle E., Neshoba Co.

### HCC MSBDC

Very informational.

--- Don C., Madison Co.

### JSU MSBDC

Mr. Brown is extremely professional and knowledgeable. The administrative support was welcoming and courteous.

---Aisha F., Rankin Co.

Mr. Holmes was very knowledgeable about the resources available from SBA. I really appreciate the time he gave to me. This is a very valuable program.

---Maestro M., Hinds Co

I could not believe that our state offers this program. I would have failed without this program. Give them more money to get it to the public.

---Robert G. Marion Co.

I had a very good experience.

---Joseph D. III, Hinds Co.

### MSU MSBDC

It was a very beneficial and informative session. I will definitely return for more assistance.

---Amber M., Okhbbeha Co.

Would you use the SBDC program again?

33 Yes

00 No

Would you recommend the SBDC services to others?

32 Yes

00 No

Who recommended our services?

03 Bank

03 SBDC Client

02 Legislator

01 Chamber

22 Other

Please rate the business assistance services you received:

31 Excellent

02 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](#)

#### UM MSBDC

The presentation was excellent. My concerns for starting a business was addressed. I received directions where to start such as researching.

*---Lisa Ann J., Lee Co.*

#### GC MSBDC

Answered all the questions and was very helpful and knowledgeable-Thank you.

*---Carol T., Jackson Co.*

I felt that Mr. McDowell gave excellent service and was very attentive and knowledgeable about the loan process. At each juncture of our meeting, he asked if I had any questions.

*---Michael B., Jackson Co.*

Counselor was very informative and well knowledgeable in the particular field that we were interested in.

*---Phillip M., Harrison Co.*

Very informative, Thank you very much.

*-Dustin M., Harrison Co.*

I thank the small business development center for all that they do to help people.

*-Vincent M., Stone Co.*

#### JCJC MSBDC

It was very helpful and informative.

*---Kelley H., Marion Co.*

My experience was more than excellent. I left feeling like all my questions were answered in a manner that I could understand. I am very excited about my decision to come here.

*---Melissa J., Jones Co.*

[Mississippi State University](#)  
[The University of Mississippi](#)

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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.

The counselor was very knowledgeable and thorough. He answered all of my questions and pointed me in the right direction.

---Jennifer P., Jones Co

Our experience today was very helpful and has us headed in the right direction to make the right decision to start our business.

---Karra S., Covington Co

I enjoyed my counselor. He made things understandable to me as a potential business owner. I am very pleased with the patience he applied.

---LaWanda S., Marion Co.

My visit was very informative and helpful.

---Larry W., Forrest Co.

Lots of great info and guidance.

---Cayce S., Marion Co.

Our appointment was extremely informative. This will help us with our decision to go forth with the expansion of our current business.

---Jeremy M., Jones Co.

My experience was positive. I received great advice for my small business.

---Hope S., Jones Co.

Excellent help.

---Shelby S., Marion Co.

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**SBJA MSBDC**

Very good job, I understand everything.

---Daisy Ann C., Jackson Co.

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Mississippi Small Business Development Center's Weekly Stakeholder Update

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