

GMEN Member Update --- July, 2005  
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This is the fifth in a series of e-newsletters to GMEN members. The quarterly paper newsletter will continue to focus on specific programs defined by funders. The next quarterly newsletter will be published in August with a focus on the annual statewide conference.

### [Annual Board Officer Elections](#)

At the July meeting of the GMEN Board of Directors, the following officers were elected for a one year term:

Chair	Daryl Blount
Vice Chair	Art Druckenmiller
Secretary	Yvonne Days-Cuffie
Treasurer	Rod Wallace
Past Chair	Winston Heard

### [Training & Technical Assistance](#)

Has your community been named "entrepreneur friendly" by the Governor's Office on Entrepreneur and Small Business? Do you live and/or work in Adel/Turner, Ashburn/Turner, Douglas/Coffee, Fannin, Tombs/Montgomery/Tattnal, or Valdosta/Lowdes counties? It is important that GMEN members participant in global entrepreneur and small business efforts in their local communities. I you hear about an entrepreneur audit being done in your community, make sure you participate and are included in the list of small business resources available in your community. For more information see [www.org/esbd](http://www.org/esbd) and [www.gredc.org/entrepreneurservices/htm](http://www.gredc.org/entrepreneurservices/htm) . Also contact your Regional Managers for economic development [www.dca.state.ga.us/regions/services](http://www.dca.state.ga.us/regions/services) so that they will include you in meetings and referrals to entrepreneurs.

A good resource for your training classes is the "Points of Contact for Small Business Entrepreneurs" from the Georgia Secretary of State's office. [www.sos.state.ga.us/firststop/](http://www.sos.state.ga.us/firststop/)

AEO has an excellent one-day workshop for program development: "Building the High Performance Microenterprise Development Program." This session will be offered during the AEO 2006 national conference in Atlanta.

"Does your organization need software, but never seems to have room in the budget? Does your organization continue to use suboptimal hardware because you don't have enough information to help you decide between options?" Go to [www.techsoup.org](http://www.techsoup.org) and see if this is a resource for you.

Got clients in the construction industry. Don't forget about the resources of Greater Atlanta Economic Development Alliance. Go to [www.alliance4u.org](http://www.alliance4u.org)

The MS Foundation has released two new publications: "Enhancing Opportunities through Entrepreneurship" and "Enhancing Employment Opportunities for Women." Go to [www.ms.foundation.org](http://www.ms.foundation.org) for more details.

A marketing resource for your clients is [www.georgiabizupdate.com](http://www.georgiabizupdate.com)

### [Access to Capital](#)

A new loan fund program is under development: The One Georgia Authority Entrepreneur and Small Business Development Loan Guarantee Program. You are encouraged to review this program and determine if your loan fund qualifies as a participant or if your program client can benefit from this resource. [www.onegeorgia.org](http://www.onegeorgia.org)

Angel investor organization set-up by the Kaufman Foundation: [www.angelcapitalassociation.org](http://www.angelcapitalassociation.org)

Community Reinvestment Fund [www.crfusa.com](http://www.crfusa.com)

### [Funding Opportunities](#)

Assets for Independence Demonstration Program, November 1 deadline [www.acf.hhs.gov/grants](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants)

Requests for Proposal, Rural Heritage Development [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)

Bank of America Charitable Investments Neighborhood Excellence Initiative  
[www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation)

Women Helping Others Foundation, deadline September 13 [www.whofoundation.org](http://www.whofoundation.org)

The Peter Drucker Award for nonprofit innovation is presented each year in November to three US non profit organizations in recognition of existing programs that have made a difference in the lives of the people it serves. Deadline is August 12, 2005. [www.cgu.edu/pages/2417.asp](http://www.cgu.edu/pages/2417.asp)

### [Mark your calendar](#)

August 8 Mountain Entrepreneur Support Organization @ Lanier Technical College

August 17 Minority Business Development Center  
MED Week Financial Roundtable Forum [www.georgiambdc.org](http://www.georgiambdc.org)

September 8 Construction Alliance Academy, new class starts 404-827-9677  
[www.alliance4u.org](http://www.alliance4u.org)

September 10 Turner Chapel AME Church Business Expo (Marietta)  
770-422-6791 x3013

October 27-28 Southern Appalachian Entrepreneurship Policy Summit  
[www.microenterpriseworks.org](http://www.microenterpriseworks.org)

November 8 Association of Fundraising Professionals: National Philanthropy Day  
[www.afpatlanta.org](http://www.afpatlanta.org)

November 15-16 Third Georgia Entrepreneurial Summit in Douglas, Georgia

November 25th GMEN North Georgia Regional meeting in Unico, Georgia

### [Thank You](#)

Special thanks to WEDA and CBWW for their success stories submissions for phase 3 of GMEN's MVP cards.

#### [AEO 2006 conference in Atlanta](#)

Planning is in high gear for next year's conference. The conference theme has been selected: "Microenterprise Development - From Dreams to Reality." The save the date cards will be coming out in September and the registration booklets in January. Remember the conference dates are May 16 - 19, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta.

GMEN is responsible for four events as outlined in our June quarterly newsletter: concierge desk, micro fair, tour options, and fun night. In addition, we are responsible for raising \$100,000 to fund conference events. Committees have been established for each of these five activities. Updates will be provided in the August e-newsletter.

One opportunity for local organizations is getting sponsors for \$1,000 scholarships. These scholarships will help support one staff person attending the conference in Atlanta. More information will follow in the September e-newsletter.

If you have news about events or activities at your microenterprise program that you would like to share with other practitioners, please forward that information to [pcwill@bellsouth.net](mailto:pcwill@bellsouth.net) **by the 25th of August** for inclusion in the next e-newsletter.