



Association News

Rural Entrepreneurship Case Studies. The RUPRI Center for Rural Entrepreneurship has released three new case studies that examine various programs designed to support entrepreneurs in rural America:

- Energizing Youth Entrepreneurs in Rural Communities
- Innovative Approaches to Entrepreneurial Development
- An Evaluation of the Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches Institute

Access these [new studies](#) now.

Georgia Consortium on Personal Financial Literacy: An excellent resource for GMEN members to partner with in providing financial literacy support to their small business development customers. The Consortium will be holding educational seminars in Atlanta **For more information and to RSVP contact Nancy Schwartzmiller at 404-240-0790.**

April 26	Financial literacy & workplace productivity
July 26	Financial DNA
August 30	Retirement issues

AEO Announces the Innovation Award Program's 2007 Innovator Awards. Application deadline is April 20. For more details and to download an application go to www.microenterpriseworks.org/index.asp?bid=1803

Upcoming Events:

May 15 – 18 **AEO 2007 Annual Conference** in Kansas City, Missouri. [Register](#) online.

June 21 – 22 **GMEN 2007 Annual Conference & 10th Anniversary Celebration.** [Register](#) early for advance registration discounts.

June 25 – 29 **New Executive Leadership Program For Nonprofit Organizations** from GCN, GSU & Emory at Emory University Conference Center in Atlanta. Apply online by **April 30** at www.gcn.org/Services/Training/ContinuingEducation/ELPNO/ELPNOApplicationInfo.aspx

Member News

GMEN Member **Grace Fricks**, CEO of Appalachian Community Enterprises, is a candidate for the AEO Board of Directors. Support one of our own at the elections to be held at the upcoming AEO Conference.

Atlanta native **Holly Hunt** is named the new Chief Financial Officer of Appalachian Community Enterprises.

Microenterprise Development Programs focus

Watch for details on "**Smart Technology for a Smarter Business**" seminar in Atlanta and presented by GMEN, **May 7-11**. If you are looking for additional services to offer your clients and a source for earned income ... then make sure to mark your calendar to attend this pilot event.

PERC/Brookings UMI Joint-study on Alternative Data & Credit Reporting. A study was recently released by the Political & Economic Research Council and the Urban Markets Initiative at the Brookings Institution. An executive summary is attached with the full study available at the following website: www.brookings.edu/metro/umi/pubs/20061218_GiveCredit.pdf

Potential Program Partner – Get Checking Inc. Access to mainstream financial services. More info at www.getchecking.org/

Program Certification offered for **First Step FastTrac®** and **Developing Your Family Childcare Business™** at the upcoming AEO conference. These full day sessions will be held on May 15th at the Hyatt Regency in Kansas City. For more details & registration go to www.firststepfasttrac.org/index.asp?bid=50

Core Four® Business Planning Course Instructor Training: [Sign up now](#) for upcoming instructor trainings!

May 14 & 15 Kansas City (prior to AEO Conference)
August 13 & 14 Minneapolis, MN
October 15 & 16 Philadelphia, PA

Upcoming Events:

- April 17 – 19** **8th Gathering of the Social Enterprise Alliance** in Long Beach, CA. For more details go to www.se-alliance.org/events_gathering8_registration.cfm
- April 27** **Get Checking Inc** and its sponsors present **Get Checking Day for Georgia**. Join key financial powerhouses for a live Get Checking seminar and networking breakfast to gain knowledge on banking, credit, foreclosure prevention, pre-paid solutions, and community development. Get Checking Inc. gives consumers a second chance. Register NOW at www.getchecking.org/georgia/
- May 7 – 11** "**Smart Technology for a Smarter Business**" seminar's pilot event in Atlanta.
- May 22 – 24** **2007 CDFA Annual Development Finance Summit** - Miami Beach. Learn more at www.cdfa.net
- Sept 10 -11** **Youth Microenterprise Conference 2007** in Washington DC. To register and learn more visit www.ymeconference.org/

Fundraising

HP Announces 2007 U.S. HP Microenterprise Development Program. On May 8, 2007, HP applications are being accepted online. The deadline for submitting an application is June 5, 2007. To learn more and to download a copy of the RFP, please visit www.hp.com/go/hpmicroenterprise.

Upcoming Events:

May 16 – 17 **Georgia Nonprofit Summit 2007** at the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park. Learn more at www.gcn.org/Services/Events/GeorgiaNonprofitSummit2007.aspx

Microenterprise Opportunities

GDEcD International Trade Upcoming Programs and Events: For monthly updates go to www.georgia.org/Business/International/Trade+News.htm

Georgia Export Trade Leads can be found at www.susta.org/foreignbuyers/trade_leads.html

Upcoming Events:

April 24 **Great Atlanta Economic Alliance** presents the **Sky is the Limit Conference** at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Get updated on the upcoming 2007 contracts for female and minority businesses available in the Transportation and Construction industry. Learn more at www.alliance4u.org

June 8 – 12 **GDEcD** is organizing a **business development mission to Ningbo, China**. For more information, interested participants should contact their regional representative or Jane Li at 404.819.0258 or jane.li@earthlink.net.

Do you have news about your program that you would like to share with other members? If so email pcwill@bellsouth.net by the last calendar day of each month.

GMEN's Mission

To create opportunities and support for microenterprise development as an avenue for economic self-sufficiency in Georgia. To learn more about microenterprise or GMEN and the benefits of membership, please visit our website at <http://www.georgiamicroenterprise.org>.