



E-Newsletter

August 2008

In This Issue

Executive Director Corner

Entrepreneur Corner

Business Development
Training & Technical
Assistance

Micro Finance

Standards & Accreditation
Support

Events of Interest

This monthly e-mail is one of your many benefits as a member of the statewide microenterprise industry association.

Business Development Training & Technical Assistance

Congratulations to the **Women's Economic Self Sufficiency Program** (WESSP) as the host of an in-house business plan competition among its recent graduates.



Executive Director's Corner

August has been an awesome month for best practices learning. I want to thank EADC, EC CDC, EDGE, GRACE, GWNG, and SBAC for their participation in the site visits to "access to markets" best practices in New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, and Minnesota. The possibilities for Georgia in rural and urban communities are exciting.

An overview of the "access to markets" project will be included in the GMEN

Congratulations to the **EDGE Connection** as they celebrated their 28th Graduation ceremony on August 28th. Since their inception in November 1998, they have served more than 1,600 clients with entrepreneurial education, business development, consultation, and access to new markets and capital to launch, grow and sustain businesses.

Congratulations to the **Center for Black Women's Wellness** on their recent fundraising Donor Party hosted by Chima. CBWW continues its efforts to raise \$100,000 to benefit a much needed initiative: *Healing Communities - One Woman At a Time Campaign*. Additionally, this year marks CBWW's 20 year Anniversary to be celebrated on November 14.

Marketing opportunity for your clients: (If you have a current or former TANF client that would like to participate in one of these events, a portion of any fees & expenses may be reimbursable by GMEN, contact pcwill@bellsouth.net)

Sept 23-26 **World Food Show in Russia** - send samples to be displayed on the SUSTA booth. Contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be

quarterly newsletter that you will soon be receiving in the mail. A summary of these site visits will be in the next quarterly newsletter ... but suffice it to say that we have an awesome opportunity to expand the market reach of your clients locally and globally. We visited retail stores, incubators (mixed-use, retail, and kitchen), and industry focused marketing departments run by microenterprise programs just like you!!! You are encouraged to make plans for attending the May 2009 debriefing session for setting the direction for Georgia.

We also want to remind you to attend the October 9th GMEN annual membership meeting. Each year we have board elections and bylaw changes addressed at this meeting. We will also be doing an organizational update at this year's event. The membership meeting will be held just before the annual Awards Reception at the same location as the October 10th Summit on Entrepreneurship.

Lastly, I want to encourage GMEN members to provide success stories about your clients with pictures ASAP. Funders and supporters appreciate the very important work that you are doing ... but, they want to see the end-product ... your clients ... as validation for their support. The GMEN fundraising committee is working very hard to secure funding focused in four areas: regrating to you, standards & accreditation for you, store/e-commerce to market your clients' products, and outreach to tell your story.

Thank you for all that you do to make a difference in the start-up and growth of micro businesses in Georgia!!!

P.C. Williams
678-296-1059

- Sept 24-26 **IFE Americas Show in Miami.** Contact David Bryant at dbryant@agr.state.ga.us
- Sept 29-Oct 3 **Portugal Trade Mission-** meet key buyers in the food market. Deadline September 8. \$100 fee. Contact David Bryant at dbryant@agr.state.ga.us
- October **Mexico Trade Mission** - expand your market. One-on-one meetings arranged. Registration deadline Sept 15. Contact Maggie Adamack at madamack@agr.state.ga.us
- Oct 10-11 **SUSTA'S Asian Consultant comes to Atlanta** - opportunity to learn more about the Chinese market. For more info or to sign up contact Matt Anderson at manders@agr.state.ga.us
- Oct 19-23 **SIAL Paris Trade Show.** For more details visit www.susta.org Register by September 26. **Note:** the State of Georgia will have a display booth of Georgia products. For more details on shipping your product to Paris to be displayed in the US Pavilion contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be
- Oct 24-27 **Produce Marketing Associate's Fresh Summit in Orlando.** Where global fresh produce and floral supply chains come together to do business. Contact Greg Peacock at gregpeacock@georgia-ag.com or 478.689.0422.
- Oct 26-Nov 4 **Central America Trade Mission.** Hosted by SUSTA. Registration deadline September 19. For more information contact Maggie Adamack at madamack@agr.state.ga.us
- Nov 5-8 **GIDA Trade Show, Istanbul, Turkey.** Registration deadline October 15. Contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be
- Nov 9-15 **Trade Mission to India.** FedEx and the US Commercial Service are working together on this business mission for US businesses interested in expanding their business into India. For more information go to fedex.com/thinkindia
- Dec 2-4 **IFE India, New Delhi.** Registration deadline October 23. Contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be
- Dec 4-6 **Shanghai China.** SUSTA invites southern US Companies to exhibit products at Food and Hotel China at New International Center in Shanghai. Deadline October 17. \$1,500 fee. Contact Maggie Adamack at madamack@agr.state.ga.us

Export trade leads can also be found at www.susta.org/foreignbuyers/trade_leads.html

Georgia Made Georgia Grown. Check out this [website](#) for

Entrepreneur Corner



Dennis Allen:
K & D Photography
Dennis Allen lives in Elberton, Georgia with his wife and children. Elberton is located about 40 miles northeast of Athens, Georgia. Dennis has a successful photography business named for him and his wife "**K & D Photography**". He is a graduate of East Athens Development Corporation's (EADC) micro enterprise class. He recently signed a contract with EADC to take photos of their board members for EADC's website. He did an excellent job. You can check out his work by going to their web site: www.eadcinc.com and view pictures of board members. K & D Photography's services include wedding photos, family pictures, senior's portraits, college graduations, anniversaries and family reunions. Congratulations to Dennis Allen.

Spread the News!

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

marketing your client's "Georgia Made Georgia Grown" business and products.

Micro Finance

Citi and ACCION Texas partnership a first for the US micro finance industry

Citi agrees to purchase up to \$30 million in new loans from ACCION Texas. The organization is very excited about this domestic microfinance first and wants to share the impact this has on their organization and domestic microfinance as a whole. Pictured (below) is the signing of Citibank and ACCION Texas Microloan Partnership.



Congratulations to **Thelma Adams Johnson**, President/CEO of Albany Community Together (ACT) as this year's recipient of the **SBA Financial Services Champion** award (pictured below). Johnson's award recognizes her efforts to assist small businesses by supporting additional financial services for start-ups and existing small companies in the Albany area.



WorldBusiness Capital, Inc. (WBC) - direct lender

WBC is well-known for financing middle market companies and projects in Latin America, Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Now, in addition to making international loans, WBC also finances businesses in the United States that develop and/or employ renewable energy technologies. WBC's loans range from \$1 million to \$25 million and have repayment terms up to 25 years.

development as an avenue for economic self-sufficiency in Georgia.

Funds may be used for working capital, equipment purchases, real estate construction and acquisition, and many other commercial purposes. www.worldbusinesscapital.com

GMEN Website
www.georgiamicroenterprise.org

P. C. Williams
Executive Director

P: 678-296-1059
F: 404-349-3877
pcwill@bellsouth.net

NBAI Private Equity Investor Forum

Meet Investors at the next NBAI Private Equity Investor Forum on **September 10**, 2:30-7:00 in Atlanta at the Ravinia Club. Have Questions? [Click here](#) to learn more.

Can You Raise a Million Dollars?

LAUNCHfn and NBAI Announces the "Can You Raise A Million Dollars?" Business Plan Competition™ for entrepreneurs raising capital. All Companies that submit their application, and get a Green Light: meaning they are investor ready, will get this exclusive opportunity to gain access to thousands of potential investors, clients, and venture partners. To get all the information and find out more go to www.findinvestorcapital.com

Microenterprise & Development Institute - East Africa

SNHU offering two workshop options for development practitioners: (1) Community-Managed Microfinance: A new and sustainable approach to microfinance for the poor; and (2) Pro Poor Enterprise Development. October 20 - November 1 at the Belinda Ocean Resort, Jangwani Beach, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. See full details on [MDI East Africa Enrollment and Costs](#).

Standards & Accreditation Support

Fundraising: Top Five Pitfalls of One-on-One Asking according to [Benevon](#)

Read this new article by Benevon founder and CEO Terry Axelrod, [Top Five Pitfalls of One-on-One Asking](#), to learn how to improve your one-on-one Asks.

Plug Into Profit! Small Business Workshop

Sponsored by the GDEcD Small Business & Innovation Program, these workshops will show small businesses how to profit in the global marketplace. 3 days and 3 locations - October 14-16, Valdosta, Byron, Athens, respectively. [Click here](#) for more information on the event.

Do Good™ Channel is an exciting new community service that enables local nonprofits to connect with a broader audience online.

This free, easy to use online service allows you to promote your organization and reach huge numbers of potential volunteers, donors and advocates. Visit www.dogoodchannel.com

How UST Can Save You Money

UST is an unemployment tax savings program for 501(c)(3) organizations. Rather than subsidizing the unemployment claims of for-profit companies, UST members pool their resources to pay only the claims incurred by their former employees. For more information about this valuable program, visit the UST website,

www.chooseust.org or click [here](#) to start the enrollment process with UST by requesting a savings quote online.

Economic Gardening as an Entrepreneurial Development Strategy

The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta recently posted an online article that discusses the role of "economic gardening" in creating an environment supportive of entrepreneurs and small business development. To read the full article, visit [here](#)

Changemakers Challenge for Cutting-Edge Financing Methods - Nationwide

Deadline: October 1, 2008

Citigroup and Ashoka have launched Changemakers "Banking on Social Change: Seeking Financial Solutions for All" Competition, a worldwide search for financial service projects that use the transformative power of innovation and skills to achieve real economic and social change. For more information, visit www.changemakers.net.

Georgia Department of Corrections - Volunteer Certification Training

There will be Volunteer Certification Training at [Hays State Prison](#) in Trion on Monday, September 22 at 9:00 am. Training will be held in the training center next to the Hays Annex. The trainer will be Chaplain Eldridge from Walker State Prison. For more information and to register contact Jim Powers at jpowers@archatl.com.

Marketing outlet for your clients

Programs may want to review the website www.dailycandy.com. Staff does not recommend this site, but shares it as information for your clients.

Events of Interest

... 2008...

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Sept 10-12 | Governor's Tourism Conference 2008 in Albany at the Hilton Garden Inn. |
| Sept 10-12 | Annual Conference on Financial Education at the Westin Peachtree Plaza - presented by the Institute for Financial Literacy |
| Sept 11-13 | CFED's 2008 Assets Learning Conference in Washington DC. |
| Sept 15-16 | 2008 Global Youth Enterprise Conference at the George Washington University in Washington DC. |

- Sept 23-24 [CORE FOUR® Instructor Training](#) in Minneapolis, MN
- Oct 6 [The Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance](#): "How to Develop a Bid" course
- Oct 7 [Meetings Quest](#) Atlanta tradeshow.
- Oct 9-10 [GMEN Annual Conference](#) at the Loudermilk Center in Atlanta
- Oct 13-15 [NBIA's Fall Training Institute](#) in New Orleans
- Oct 14-16 [Small Business Workshop "Plug Into Profit!"](#) in Valdosta, Byron & Athens.
- Nov 1 [The EDGE Connection's GALA 2008: Celebrating 10 years of Accomplishment](#) at the Marriott Marquis Atlanta
- Nov 14-15 [CBWW's](#) awards reception and Women's Health Expo at the Twelve Hotel at Atlantic Station in celebration of its **20 year Anniversary**.
- Nov 17-23 [EntrepreneurshipWeek USA](#) focus is on global entrepreneurship www.unleashingideas.org
- Dec 9-12 [Opportunity Finance Network Conference](#) at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Success Story!

Do you have a microentrepreneur "Success Story"? Share it with us and it may be featured as our *Entrepreneur Highlight*. Email it with the subject line "Success Story" pcwill@bellsouth.net

Forward email

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to barnettd@aol.com by georgiamicroenterprise@yahoo.com.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by

