



WAEM

West Alabama–East Mississippi

Appendix

Service Area: Bevill State Community College

Guin: Networking efforts have continued to bring resource partners to the table to assist the Mayor with his vision of creating a mural city that will build community pride and in the long run, facilitate tourism. This quarter, Bevill State coordinated a meeting to bring together stakeholders and a representative from the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments to discuss technical assistance in developing a strategic plan for the project and potential grant money. As a result of the meeting, a preliminary work plan has been developed, serving as basis for a strategic plan for the project.

Jasper: Bevill State staff coordinated with partner agencies to host Network Navigator Training in Walker County Alabama with strong support from our Career Center partners, the Walker Area Community Foundation, and Alabama Technology Network (ATN).

Bevill State has provided technical support to members of a small team comprised from leadership Walker County who are seeking to create a CD with information on starting a business in Walker County. Technical support has consisted of providing Start-It Cards for Walker County, which contains this information. Also, one of the team members (Office Manager for the Alabama Technology Network) attending the Network Navigator Training, which highlighted MyBiz.am, as a web based tool for connecting entrepreneurs with available resources. The assistance that has been provided should be of real value to this leadership team and for the cause of advancing entrepreneurship in the area. Bevill State anticipates working more closely with this group as the project advances forward during this next quarter.

The Jasper Office of the Alabama Technology Network (ATN) was added as a resource partner to MyBiz.am.

During this quarter, BSCC staff laid the foundation to introduce an entrepreneurship curriculum through the REAL Program (Rural Entrepreneurship Through Action Learning) at the Walker County Center of Technology. Information on REAL was provided by Tommie Syx, Coordinator, AlabamaReal; a Program of the University of Alabama Center for Community-Based Partnerships. BSCC staff recognized that funding for teacher training on the REAL curriculum would be an obstacle under current economic conditions. Bevill State arrange for the Executive Director of the Walker Area Community Foundation to be present to hear firsthand the presentation and discuss grant opportunities through the foundation to cover the cost for teacher training on the REAL curriculum.

Fayette: Revisions to Fayette's Strategic Plan was completed and implemented this quarter. A Power Point presentation was developed for use in reporting Fayette's accomplishments from 2005 when Urban Studios completed Fayette's Small Town Design Initiative Master Plan to 2006 when Fayette implemented their Strategic Plan; then, from July 2008 when WAEM BSCC Staff began Fayette's Strategic Plan revisions

and rebuilding plan committees, to present.

A REAL workshop was held at the Fayette County Career Technical Center to train instructors from 3 Fayette County High Schools, Fayette County HS, Berry HS, and Hubbertville HS. The Fayette County School System has agreed to include the REAL program in its curriculum beginning in the Fall of 2009. Ms. Tommie Syx of the University of Alabama Center for Community-Based Partnerships donated her time, leveraged funds valued at \$500.00, to provide the training.

Carrollton: During this quarter, Cheryl Morgan with Auburn Studios, lead the initial meeting in the charrette process, which was followed by another community meeting where she sought input on the preliminary Master Plan that identified assets and opportunities. The third and final community meeting will be held next month (February 2009).

Fayette-Berry-Glen Allen-Guin-Winfield: This past quarter, a Roundtable Meeting with elected officials and civic leaders from the above communities came together to discuss the Tom Bevill Reservoir Lake Project in Fayette County. A Steering Committee was formed to move the project forward that later lead to an Action Plan being developed.

Community Involvement Matrix

East Central Community College

COMMUNITY		Initial contact made with community																		
		Community has and uses a strategic plan																		
		Community needs a strategic plan it will use																		
		Community is open to "place building" planning or project support																		
		Place building initiative started																		
		ERDS "first champion" identified																		
		ERDS "start-it" card developed and circulated																		
		ERDS "connector" identified and trained																		
		ERDS "connector" is reporting referrals																		
		ERDS "navigator" identified and trained																		
		ERDS "start-it" book developed and printed																		
		Community is open to ERDS process																		
		ERDS process started																		
		Place building plan/project completed																		
		ERDS plan completed																		
ERDS implemented																				
1	Carthage	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
2	Lena	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
3	Walnut Grove	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
4	Philadelphia	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
5	Chunky	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
6	Decatur	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
7	Hickory	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
8	Newton	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
9	Union	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
10	Forest	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
11	Lake	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
12	Morton	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
13	Sebastopol	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
14	Louisville	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
15	Noxapater	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

Legend:

█	Leake County
█	Neshoba County
█	Newton County
█	Scott County
█	Winston County

Service Area: East Central Community College

Forest: The community has started the ERDS process.

Service Area: East Mississippi Community College

West Point: A new director of the Alliance has been hired. The West Point/Clay County Growth Alliance has held **five** entrepreneurship training sessions for the community. EMCC has assisted West Point and Columbus Schools in developing a GED program and has signed an implementation agreement with Columbus and West Point. Dual enrollment classes are ongoing at GT Campus. A Growth Alliance staff member participated in WAEMTOWN.

Columbus: Columbus has requested WAEM Data to be included in its new Columbus/Link web page format and has been supplied. Basic Skills has been added to the Dual enrollment for Columbus High School. The second symposium for the entrepreneurship classes is scheduled for EMCC's GT Campus on January 22, 2009.. The Columbus mayor attended WAEMTOWN at Lake Tiak O'K'ahta.

Macon: A Renaissance Update meeting was held on October 22, 2008 to begin adding the ERDS process into the implementation strategy of the community's strategic plan.

Service Area: Jones County Junior College

Bay Springs: Several meetings have been held in Bay Springs to present the First Impressions findings. The town is very receptive of the report and is working to address some of the opportunities.

Collins: The JCJC WIRED Team, in conjunction with the Covington County Chamber of Commerce, presented the First Impressions Report to the Collins Board of Aldermen. The report was well received by the elected officials. The report has given the town an outside view of itself and several conversations have begun about the future efforts of the town.

Ellisville: The JCJC WIRED Team, along with the Jones County Economic Development Authority, developed a Strategic Plan for the county. The WIRED Team played a vital role in the development of the plan. The WIRED Team is also heavily involved in the implementation of the plan.

Mt. Olive: The JCJC WIRED Team, in conjunction with the Covington County Chamber of Commerce, presented the First Impressions Report to the Mt. Olive Board of Aldermen. The report was well received by the elected officials. The report has given the town an outside view of itself and several conversations have begun about the future efforts of the town. Work with Mt. Olive, Covington County Chamber, and WIRED will continue.

Seminary: The JCJC WIRED Team, in conjunction with the Covington County Chamber of Commerce, presented the First Impressions Report to the Seminary Board of Aldermen. The report was well received by the elected officials. The report has given the town an outside view of itself and several conversations have begun about the future efforts of the town.

Stonewall: The First Impressions Report was presented to the Board of Aldermen and several community leaders. The report allowed the town to see itself from a visitor's point of view.

Community Involvement Matrix

Meridian Community College

		COMMUNITY																
		Initial contact made with community	Community has and uses a strategic plan	Community needs a strategic plan it will use	Community is open to "place building" planning or project support	Place building initiative started	ERDS "first champion" identified	ERDS "start-it" card developed and circulated	ERDS "connector" identified and trained	ERDS "connector" is reporting referrals	ERDS "navigator" identified and trained	ERDS "start-it" book developed and printed	Community is open to ERDS process	ERDS process started	Place building plan/project completed	ERDS plan completed	ERDS implemented	
1	Collinsville	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2	Meridian	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
3	Marion	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Service Area: Meridian Community College

Collinsville: One representative from community attended the WAEM Town retreat.

Marion: Two representatives from Marion attended WAEM Town Retreat and found it very informative. The town has filled out an application to “First Impressions” and will receive a visit in the spring. Leadership facilitat met in December with mayor, board and town clerk to discuss developing a strategic plan for the town.

Meridian: One representative from community attended the WAEM Town retreat.

