





## **Service Area: Alabama Southern Community College**

### **Choctaw County**

In the past three months, the ASCC WAEM Team has moved forward in the southern part of Choctaw County. The following bullet points highlight what has been accomplished in this county during the past three months:

- In the town of Gilbertown, the ASCC WAEM Team hosted a variety of task force meetings and steering committee meetings in preparation for the Opportunity Retreat.
- In late November, the Opportunity Retreat for Gilbertown was held, and the community members have decided to move forward with putting together a strategic plan for the town that focuses on rural place building, youth retention, education, economic development/entrepreneurship, and recreation/tourism.
- In December, momentum and plans were underway to develop a strategic plan for Gilbertown that is scheduled for late February/early March.
- Relationships have continued to grow stronger particularly with the Choctaw County Chamber of Commerce and the University of West Alabama.
- Developed Start-It Cards for all seven incorporated communities in Choctaw County.

### **Clarke County**

In Clarke County, the ASCC WAEM Team worked all over the county, but primarily focused on Thomasville. The following bullet points highlight what has been accomplished in this county within the last three months:

- Thomasville has finished their Opportunity Retreat and the city of Thomasville is in the process of putting together an ERDS Plan.
- Groundwork and discussions are in progress in assisting the town of Coffeeville with an assessment of its community.
- Continued active participation in Clarke County Leadership.
- Began assisting the Clarke County Development Foundation with solutions to infrastructure issues and grant proposals.
- Developed Start-It Cards for all five incorporated communities in Clarke County, and business guides for the City of Thomasville are developed and in circulation.

### **Conecuh County**

Conecuh County is an area that the ASCC WAEM Team is starting to infiltrate. Here are some quick bullet points on where the ASCC WAEM Teams stands in this county:

- An ASCC WAEM Team member has finished an Alabama Community of Excellence assessment of the city of Evergreen, and the overall results should be made public in the beginning of 2008.

- Continued relationship building with the regional economic development entity, Coastal Gateway Economic Development Agency (especially with the new union of Twin Rivers).
- Developed Start-It Cards for the three incorporated communities in Conecuh County.

### **Marengo County**

Marengo County is a county trying to make community and economic development strides within the last three months. Here are some brief items that have occurred within the last three months from an ASCC WAEM perspective:

- Participated in several events concerning the Grow Linden process.
- Active discussions of partnership with the University of West Alabama in assisting communities especially in the southern end of the county.
- Discussion with some political and local leaders concerning angel investing and workforce training.
- Developed Start-It Cards for six incorporated communities in Marengo County.

### **Monroe County**

Monroe County is a county that the ASCC WAEM Team has begun to heavily participate in over the past three months. Here are the ASCC WAEM Team efforts in this county within the last three months:

- Assisted Auburn University Urban Studios with a charrette of the City of Monroeville.
- Began strengthening our relationship with the Monroe County Industrial Development Board in promoting economic development within the county.
- Continued assistance with selected members and leaders of the community in the planning and development stages of a civic facility for the county.
- Local political and community leaders within Monroe County have been appreciative and supportive of our efforts and have begun to request more community assistance.
- Continued active participation in Monroe County Leadership Now.
- Developed Start-It Cards for four incorporated communities in Monroe County.

### **Wilcox County**

The ASCC WAEM Team continues to participate in regional and county-wide organizations to spread the WAEM Regional Initiative. The progress within this county is as follows:

- Continued involvement with the Wilcox County Children's Policy Council.
- Partnered with Wallace Community College Selma to offer job preparation instruction before the Black Belt Job Fair.
- Identified and built relationships with champions within Wilcox County to not only grow awareness of WAEM but to also assist in future place building efforts.

- Conducted Entrepreneurship Asset Mapping in preparation of the AIDT's Workforce Development Plan for Wilcox County as well as participated in Workforce Development meetings hosted by AIDT.
- Developed Start-It Cards for four incorporated communities in Wilcox County.



	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
20	Aliceville									X							
21	Carrollton									X							
22	Ethelsville									X							
23	Gordo									X							
24	McMullen									X							
25	Memphis									X							
26	Pickensville									X							
27	Reform									X							
28	Carbon Hill									X							
29	Cordova									X							
30	Dora									X							
31	Eldridge									X							
32	Jasper									X							
33	Kansas									X							
34	Nauvoo									X							
35	Oakman									X							
36	Parrish									X							
37	Sipsey									X							
38	Sumiton									X							

**Legend:**

Fayette County	
Lamar County	
Marion County	
Pickens County	
Walker County	
N/A	

X=Navigator identified, not trained

## **SERVICE AREA: BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Enclosed in our Community Involvement Matrix is our Status Report for the Start-It Cards for each of our communities. Bevill State's service area, as it pertains to the WIRED initiative, includes Walker, Fayette, Lamar, Pickens and Hamilton counties. Bevill State recognizes that the Start It-Cards are a key component in the revised implementation plan. Bevill State's first phase has consisted of collecting all community service information and assuring accuracy of this data. To this end, we have insured reliability through gathering information from city halls, probate offices, the Alabama State Dept. of Revenue and AlaTax, a private Birmingham based company that contracts with municipalities and counties to render tax and licensing services.

Phase I has targeted Walker County for full implementation for all 11 communities. This information has been collected and formatted on the back of the Start-It Cards. We circulated the cards in 3 communities: Jasper, Sumiton and Dora, with each community having connectors in place and a My Biz logbook at each location. Bevill State Community College is now in the process of redesigning the front of the Start-It Card. We have likewise made significant progress in collecting the data in other areas.

Bevill State's implementation strategy consist primarily utilizing city halls, public libraries and campus libraries as community connectors. The Career Centers located throughout Bevill State's territory swill serve a dual role as community connectors and resource navigators. Other options for community connectors will have to be explored in smaller communities that have limited resources.

### **WALKER COUNTY**

**Jasper:** Collection of data (community services) concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card began in January 2008 with community connectors being identified as Jasper City Hall (business license office) and the Walker County Career Center. A My Biz logbook is located at the Career Center. In addition, the Career Center has on display all 11 cards of the Walker County area. The Career Center will serve a dual role as a connector and a Resource Navigator, upon being trained.

Also, we will be utilizing the Jasper campus library of Bevill State to serve as a connector and the Jasper public library.

**Sumiton:** Collection of data (community services) concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card began in January 2008 with community connectors being identified as Sumiton City Hall (business license office) and the Sumiton Public Library which is located in the same building as city hall. A My Biz logbook is located at the library. In addition we plan on the Bevill State Sumiton campus library serving as a connector and having a log book in place.

**Dora:** Collection of data (community services) concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card began in January 2008 with the community connector

being identified as Dora City Hall. The public library in Dora is currently closed for renovation. We anticipate that upon additional communication with the mayor and the city clerk that city hall will be willing to accommodate the location of a My Biz logbook.

**Cordova:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. Anticipated community connectors are identified as Cordova City Hall and the public library. We anticipate the location of the My Biz logbook to be with one or more of these connectors.

**Parrish:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. The anticipated community connector is identified as Parrish City Hall with the My Biz logbook at this location.

**Sipsey:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. Anticipated community connectors are identified as Sipsey City Hall and the public library.

We anticipate the location of the My Biz logbook to be with one or more of these connectors.

**Eldridge:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. Due to the small size of this community, the community connector has not yet been determined.

**Kansas:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. Due to the small size of this community, the community connector has not yet been determined.

**Oakman:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. The anticipated community connector is identified as Oakman City Hall with the My Biz log book at this location.

**Carbon Hill:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008,

however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. Anticipated community connectors are identified as Carbon Hill City Hall and the public library with the My Biz logbook to be with one or more of these connectors.

**Nauvoo:** Collection of data (community services) and printing concluded in December 2007 with dissemination of the Start-It Card set to begin in January 2008, however, due to mandatory revision, the Card will be distributed upon a community picture being inserted and other changes. The anticipated community connector is Nauvoo City Hall with the My Biz log book at this location.

## **MARION COUNTY**

**Bear Creek:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Bear Creek City Hall with the My Biz log book at this location.

**Hamilton:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. Community connectors are Hamilton City Hall, the public library, Bevell State Hamilton Campus and the Hamilton Career Center with the My Biz log book located at numerous locations. The Career Center will also serve as a resource navigator.

**Guin:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Guin City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location. We anticipate having additional connectors in this community because of the strong support of the mayor.

**Gu-win:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Gu-win City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

**Winfield:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Winfield City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

**Hackleburg:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Hackleburg City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

**Brilliant:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Brilliant City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

## **FAYETTE COUNTY**

**Belk:** We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and disseminated during the second quarter of 2008.

**Fayette:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008.

**Berry:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008.

**Glen Allen:** In February 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and disseminated during the second quarter of 2008.

## **LAMAR COUNTY**

**Beaverton:** In February 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and disseminated during the second quarter of 2008.

**Detroit:** In February 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and disseminated during the second quarter of 2008.

**Kennedy:** In February 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and disseminated during the second quarter of 2008.

**Millport:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is

Millport City Hall and the public library with the My Biz log book located at these locations.

**Sulligent:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Sulligent City Hall and the public library with the My Biz logbook located at these locations.

**Vernon:** Collection of data (community services) was concluded in December 2007. Dissemination of the Start-It Card is expected to begin during the second quarter of 2008. The anticipated community connector is Vernon City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

## **PICKENS COUNTY**

**Aliceville; Carrollton; McMullen; Ethelsville; Gordo; Memphis;  
Pickensville and Reform**

In February 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and disseminated during the second quarter of 2008.

# 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	Leake County	Leake County		Leake County	Leake County				Leake County										
2	Lena	Leake County	Leake County		Leake County	Leake County														
3	Walnut Grove	Leake County	Leake County		Leake County	Leake County														
4	Philadelphia	Neshoba County	Neshoba County		Neshoba County	Neshoba County				Neshoba County	Neshoba County									
5	Chunky																			
6	Decatur	Newton County			Newton County															
7	Hickory	Newton County																		
8	Newton	Newton County	Newton County		Newton County															
9	Union	Newton County																		
10	Forest	Scott County		Scott County	Scott County								Scott County							
11	Lake	Scott County																		
12	Morton	Scott County			Scott County	Scott County														
13	Sebastapol	Scott County																		

**Legend:**

- Leake County
- Neshoba County
- Newton County
- Scott County
- Winston County

Through 9/19/07



## **Service Area: East Central Community College**

\*These are the communities for which there have been changes since the last quarterly report.

**Lena & Walnut Grove:** The changes reflected in the Community Involvement Matrix for Lena and Walnut Grove reflect the fact that all of the Leake County communities operate under the umbrella of The Leake County Development Association. Members of all three communities participated in meetings in which the ECCC WAEM Staff presented the ERDS process. Three strategies regarding entrepreneurship developed as a result. These strategies will be implemented in 2008.

Start-It Cards were developed and would have been distributed to eleven communities had there not been an error in printing. This will take place in January 2008. The ERDS process was scheduled to begin in Forest with a Kick-Off Meeting but had to be postponed at the request of community champions involved. This will take place in January 2008.

# Community Involvement Matrix

East Mississippi 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	West Point	Clay County	Clay County		Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County	Clay County
2	Columbus	Lowndes County	Lowndes County		Lowndes County		Lowndes County										
3	Caledonia	Lowndes County		Lowndes County													
4	Artesia	Lowndes County															
5	Crawford	Lowndes County															
6	Macon	Noxubee County		Noxubee County	Noxubee County	Noxubee County	Noxubee County					Noxubee County	Noxubee County				
7	Shuqualak	Noxubee County		Noxubee County		Noxubee County											
8	Brooksville	Noxubee County		Noxubee County	Noxubee County	Noxubee County											
9	Starkville	Oktribbeha County	Oktribbeha County		Oktribbeha County		Oktribbeha County										
10	Maben	Oktribbeha County		Oktribbeha County													
11	Sturgis																
12	Dekalb	Kemper County	Kemper County		Kemper County	Kemper County	Kemper County										
13	Scooba			Kemper County													

**Legend:**

- Clay County
- Lowndes County
- Noxubee County
- Oktribbeha County
- Kemper County

Through January 22/21

## **Service Area: East Mississippi Community College**

**West Point:** West Point continues its ERDS efforts. It has and uses a strategic plan, is open to place building planning. The place building initiative has been started and a “first champion” and a “connector” have been identified. The start-it card has been printed and is distributed across the community. A start-it booklet continues to be finalized. A meeting to adopt the ERDS implementation plan was held by the leadership and the plan was adopted. An implementation schedule has been approved for the entire year of 2008. Leadership efforts with the High Schools have been implemented. Training for GED students has been piloted and implemented for the West Point School system. Dual enrollment procedures were started.

**Columbus:** Follow--up contact has been made in Columbus. Columbus has and is implementing a strategic plan. The first stages of contact with the Mayor and development leadership has been accomplished and Columbus is open to the ERDS process. Champion(s) have been identified. A start-it card has been started. Columbus has requested WAEM Data to be included in its new Columbus/Link web page format. A dual enrollment planning meeting was held with the Columbus School system. Basic manufacturing skills will be included.

**Caledonia:** Caledonia has been initially contacted but no real interest has been shown by either the Mayor or any other groups. Start-it information has been gathered.

**Artesia:** The mayor of Artesia has been initially contacted by the college pictures have been taken for a start-it card

**Crawford:** The mayor of Crawford has been initially contacted by the college, pictures have been taken for a Start-it card.

**Macon:** Macon leadership has established a steering committee and has conducted a rollout meeting and ERDS exercises. Community is open to place building initiative. An ERDS “first champion” has been identified. Community is open to ERDS process and City/county has agreed to follow the new model of the ERDS process. ERDS Start-it card has been completed for printing. A new economic alliance has been established to continue the ERDS effort. Meetings between the leadership and the college were held to further this effort. Dual enrollment procedures were begun. An incubator has been discussed with the leadership.

**Shuqualak:** This community has begun the ERDS process, but with limited capacity. It needs to be included in the Noxubee county cooperative effort with Macon. Start-it pictures and the card have been readied for printing

**Brooksville:** This community has begun the ERDS process, but with limited capacity. It also needs to be included in the Noxubee county cooperative effort. Start-it card is ready for printing.

**Starkville:** Starkville has and uses a strategic plan. Development leadership, including the Mayor, is open to place building and has pledged their cooperation with this process. ERDS “first champion” has been identified. A start-it card has been completed and readied for printing. Dual enrollment efforts have been started with the Starkville school system.

**Maben:** Initial contact made with community. Town has limited capacity. Pictures for a start-it card have been taken.

**Sturgis:** No contact has been made with community. Start-it card pictures have been taken

**DeKalb:** Initial contact has been made. Community has and uses a strategic plan. DeKalb leadership is cooperating, is open to place building but has some doubts regarding the ERDS effort. A “first champion” has been identified. Some help has been provided to leadership on the DeKalb Strategic plan. No Start-it pictures have been obtained.

**Scooba:** The Mayor of Scooba has been initially contacted by the WAEM Team, but no steps have been taken. Community is not open to ERDS process at this time.

**EMCC:** The college has begun efforts to implement a high-school entrepreneurship curriculum. The college continues to develop a leadership institute and an entrepreneurial institute. The college has begun to implement GED training to include Basic Manufacturing Skills. The college has continued to assist consultants who are working with the Noxubee County School Board.

# WAEM-WIRED Grant Community Involvement Matrix

Jones County Junior 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	Kick Off Meeting	Opportunity Retreat	First Impressions Visit		
		1	Bay Springs	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
		2	Collins	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
		3	Ellisville	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple
		4	Enterprise	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		5	Heidelberg	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
		6	Laurel	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple
		7	Leakesville	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple
		8	McLain	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
		9	Mize	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
		10	Mt. Olive	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
		11	New Augusta	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
		12	Quitman	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		13	Raleigh	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
		14	Richton	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan
15	Sandersville	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple		
16	Seminary	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue		
17	Shubuta	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
18	Soso	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple		
19	State Line	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey		
20	Stonewall	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
21	Taylorsville	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange		
22	Waynesboro	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		

**Legend:**

Jones County
Jasper County
Clarke County
Covington County
Wayne County
Perry County
Greene County
Smith County

Through 9/10/2007

## **Service Area: Jones County Junior College**

**Bay Springs:** Several meetings have been held in Bay Springs to bring WIRED to the public's attention. See paragraphs above for more details.

**Collins:** There have been several awareness meetings with leaders from Collins over the past few months. The community is part of a county wide strategic plan and the WIRED staff is working to integrate WIRED into that plan.

**Ellisville:** Extensive work has been done in Ellisville to guide the community toward and ERDS. An Opportunity Retreat was held with business and civic leaders. The opportunity that the community sees as the biggest need is the development of a strategic plan. The steering committee is now working on the development of a strategic plan for the town.

**Enterprise:** Meetings with several business and civic groups have been held to make the public more aware of the WIRED Initiative.

**Heidelberg:** Meetings have been held with leaders in Heidelberg. The community is open to the ERDS process. A Kick-Off meeting will be held in the near future.

**Laurel:** A meeting was held with the City Council. Laurel High School is serving as a pilot school for an Entrepreneurship Class. Juniors and Seniors are part of a class that teaches the fundamentals of entrepreneurship. The second semester will consist of Quickbooks training for the students.

**Leakesville:** Presentation has been made to the Board of Aldermen.

**Mize:** Presentation was made to the Board of Aldermen.

**Mt. Olive:** Meetings have been held with the mayor and Board of Aldermen. The community is part of a county wide strategic plan and the WIRED staff is working to integrate WIRED into that plan. The town is becoming involved in the First Impressions Program.

**Quitman:** Several meetings have been held with civic and business leaders in the community.

**Raleigh:** Presentation was made to the Board of Aldermen.

**Richton:** Meetings have been held with the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. A Kick-Off meeting was held with several business and civic leaders. The town is excited about the ERDS process.

**Sandersville:** A Kick-Off meeting was held and a steering committee has been established. The town is going to begin working on a strategic plan during 2008.

**Seminary:** Meetings have been held with the mayor and Board of Aldermen. The community is part of a county wide strategic plan and the WIRED staff is working to integrate WIRED into that plan. The town is becoming involved in the First Impressions Program.

**Stonewall:** Several meetings have been held with civic and business leaders in the community. The town is becoming involved in the First Impressions Program.

**Taylorsville:** Presentation was made to the Board of Aldermen.

**Waynesboro:** Presentation was made to the Board of Aldermen.



## **Service Area: Meridian Community College**

**Collinsville:** The first community to participate in the “Enterprise-Ready” Process was the Collinsville. Because we did not have a Goal 2 Facilitator for the entire quarter, the opportunity retreat has been postponed until the new Goal 2 Facilitator begins her job (beginning in January, 2008). However, the Goal 1 Facilitator has met with three of the Collinsville champions to discuss governance issues, including chartering as a municipality. WAEM administrators have rightfully advised caution on this process so as not to upset the other communities.

**Marion:** As has been mentioned previously, Marion has made little economic or community development progress over the last several years due to ongoing legal action between the cities of Meridian and Marion over sewerage treatment rates and unpaid bills. The Goal 1 Facilitator met with the Marion governmental officials and discussed the need to change from a “fix-it” mentality to a “build-it” mentality. The administration agreed to move on toward developing an ERDS. A Kickoff meeting was held in mid-December. All of the Marion elected administration were in attendance as well as business owners and interested citizens. The meeting, scheduled for 45 minutes, lasted for almost an hour-and-a-half, as all in attendance were engaged and accepting of the process. Two community champions were identified and both are anxious to begin the process in January, 2008.

**Meridian:** At this time, only Goal 1 activities are taking place in Meridian. As mentioned in last quarter's report, our WAEM staff is working closely with Meridian's economic development entity (the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation) and will begin the ERDS process at a time that is appropriate for both the city and the EMBDC. The Goal 1 facilitator serves on multiple committees within the EMBDC and deals with the EMBDC representatives on a weekly basis. More ERDS activities will be recommended for the next quarter. The Goal 1 facilitator has made strides in developing a working relationship with the Mayor of Meridian (Meridian is the WAEM region's second-largest city), and will work with him closely to develop the WAEM Region Conference of Mayors.

# Community Involvement Matrix

Shelton State Community College 1-11- 08

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
	<b>Greene County</b>															
1	Boligee	█	█		█	█										
2	Eutaw	█	█		█	█	█	█							█	
3	Forkland	█	█		█	█	█	█							█	
4	Union	█	█		█	█										
	<b>Hale County</b>															
5	Akron	█		█	█	█	█	█	█						█	█
6	Newbern	█		█	█	█	█	█								
7	Greeneboro	█		█	█	█	█	█							█	█
8	Moundville	█		█	█	█	█	█							█	█
	<b>Tuscaloosa County</b>															
9	Brookwood	█		█	█	█	█	█							█	█
10	Coaling	█		█	█	█	█	█								
11	Coker	█		█	█	█	█	█								
12	Lakeview	█		█	█	█	█	█								
13	Northport	█		█	█	█	█	█							█	
14	Tuscaloosa	█	█		█	█	█	█							█	█
15	Vance	█		█	█	█	█	█							█	█
	<b>Sumter County</b>															
16	Cuba	█		█		█										

**Legend:**

- █ Greene County
- █ Hale County
- █ Tuscaloosa County
- █ Sumter County

17	Epes	■	■			■													
18	Gainesville	■	■			■													
19	Geiger	■	■																
20	Livingston	■	■		■	■	■	■	■				■	■					
21	York	■	■		■	■	■						■	■					

## **Service Area: Shelton State Community College**

Enclosed in our Community Involvement Matrix is our Status Report for the Start-It Cards for each of our communities. Our region has been divided into 4 phases. Phase 1 has been completed with 7 communities having Start-It Cards developed and circulated, and 1 community opted not to participate in the Start-It Cards. We are in the process of completing Phase 2 with 5 communities being targeted and we anticipate completing this phase by January 31, 2008. In February of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for communities in Phase 3 of our Start-it card initiative. We are targeting 5 communities in Phase 3 and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by March 15, 2008. The last phase for the Start-It Cards is Phase 4 and we are targeting 4 communities and we anticipate completing this phase by April 30, 2008. In addition to the Start-It Cards we are continuing to solicit additional resources for the MyBiz website. For all communities that we develop and circulate Start-It Cards we will present the cards at the city/town council meetings.

Connectors have been identified for all of the communities that we have distributed Start-It Cards and the staff at Shelton State will serve as the Navigators, however, training for the connectors and navigators has not yet been provided by TMI.

## **Greene County**

**Boligee:** In February of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Boligee is in Phase 3 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by March 15, 2008.

**Eutaw:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Eutaw. 13 Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Eutaw.

**Forkland:** We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Forkland is in Phase 2 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by January 31, 2008.

**Union:** In February of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Union is in Phase 3 of our Start-it Card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by March 15, 2008.

## **Hale County**

**Akron:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Akron. 17 Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Akron.

**Newbern:** Contact was made with the Mayor of Newbern and he informed us that no new business could be started until a sewage system is installed in Newbern. Due to the critical infrastructure concerns the mayor did not feel that the Start-It Cards should be developed and circulated at the present time.

**Greensboro:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Greensboro. At the community's request we have contacted the University of West Alabama to complete a strategic Plan for Greensboro. 13 Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Greensboro.

**Moundville:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Moundville.

## **Sumter County**

**Cuba:** In February of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Cuba is in Phase 3 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by March 15, 2008.

**Epes:** In mid March of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Epes is in Phase 4 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by April 30, 2008.

**Emelle:** In mid March of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Emelle is in Phase 4 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by April 30, 2008.

**Gainesville:** In mid March of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Gainesville is in Phase 4 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by April 30, 2008.

**Geiger:** In mid March of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Geiger is in Phase 4 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by April 30, 2008.

**Livingston:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the Small Business Center at the University of West Alabama will serve as the connector for Livingston. 18 start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Livingston.

**York:** In February of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. York is in Phase 3 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by March 15, 2008.

## **Tuscaloosa County**

**Brookwood:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Brookwood. 2 Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Brookwood.

**Coaling:** We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Coaling is in Phase 2 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by January 31, 2008.

**Coker:** In February of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Coker is in Phase 3 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by March 15, 2008.

**Lakeview:** We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Lakeview is in Phase 2 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by January 31, 2008.

**Northport:** We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Northport is in Phase 2 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by January 31, 2008.

**Tuscaloosa:** We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. Tuscaloosa is in Phase 2 of our Start-it card initiative and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated by January 31, 2008.

**Vance:** Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Vance. 6 Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Vance.



## **Service Area: Wallace Community College Selma**

**Lowndes County:** Attended Lowndes County Workforce Meeting. Attended Lowndes County Town Hall Meeting. Met with City Council regarding Start-It Card. Attended Lowndes County Shrimp Harvesting. Hosted Countywide Job Training Seminar. Hosted Job Training Seminar for Lowndes County Career Technical

**Perry County:** Met with Uniontown Mayor and City Administrator regarding Start-It Card. Met with Chamber of Commerce regarding Start-It Card. Attended Sowing Seeds of Hope Board Meeting. Hosted Job Training Seminar for Uniontown residents. Hosted Job Training Seminar for Marion Residents. Met with Superintendent regarding M3 Credentialing. Hosted Job Training Seminar at Uniontown High School.

**Dallas County:** Hosted Black Belt Job Fair. Met with Chamber of Commerce regarding Start-It Card. Met with Mayors office. Attended Selma/Dallas Renaissance Meeting. Assisted with Hosting Black Belt Action Commission Committee Meeting. Assisted with Hosting Black Belt Action Commission Planning Group. Gave Speech on WIRED at Selma Public Library. Hosted (4) Job Training Seminars for Dallas County. Hosted Job Training Seminar for Selma Early College.