

West Alabama/East Mississippi WIRED
Quarterly Report
January – March, 2008

Grant Number: WR-15405-06-60

Date: 04/30/2008

Project Name: West Alabama/East Mississippi (WAEM) WIRED Project

Grantee: Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs/Office of Workforce Development (ADECA/OWD)

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For brevity, the following references are used in this report: ADECA – Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs; TMI – The Montgomery Institute; ASCC – Alabama Southern Community College; BSCC – Beville State Community College; JCJC – Jones County Junior College; ECCC – East Central Community College; EMCC – East Central Community College; MCC – Meridian Community College; SSCC – Shelton State Community College; WCCS – Wallace Community College – Selma; MDA – Mississippi Development Authority; DOL – U.S. Dept. of Labor; ETA – DOL Employment Training Administration; WIRED – Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development.

Summary of General Grant Activities and Successes:

Seven key matters highlight the WAEM Initiative's 1st quarter of 2008, shown in chronological order below. Other activities and further information are shown by goal after these first seven items.

1. The WAEM Alliance (see earlier reports on Alliance) officially convened on January 11, 2008, at TMI in Meridian. While the president of TMI serves as the convening chair of the Alliance, a president and vice president were elected to speak for the Alliance and provide direction. Dr. James Mitchell, president of WCCS, was elected President. Dr. Scott Elliott, president of MCC was elected Vice President. By-laws governing the WAEM Alliance were adopted (see Appendix A).
2. ETA authorized ADECA to move forward with equipment purchases proposed by WAEM community and junior college partners. These investments will support both M3 Credential activities as well as advanced manufacturing training. Equipment purchase and installation should be completed at all colleges by the end of June 2008.
3. Leadership changes occurred on February 1, 2008, and thereafter. Dr. Bill Scaggs stepped down as President of TMI, moving to a part-time leadership position in WAEM WIRED. Bill Crawford moved from MDA to take Dr. Scaggs' place as TMI president and continues as Governor Barbour's appointed program manager for WIRED. This concluded the sub-recipient grant to MDA. During March Dr. Wayne Stonecypher retired as director of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges in Mississippi. Gov. Barbour appointed his successor, Dr. Eric Clark, to Wayne's position on the WAEM Commission. Ken Dupre'

moved from WIRED staff at MCC to Vice President at TMI with responsibilities for WIRED management and reporting.

4. The Governors' Summit targeted "regional tourism" as a priority to be pursued after advanced manufacturing and entrepreneurship. On February 27, 2008, TMI held its first WAEM Tourism Panel meeting at the University of West Alabama in Livingston. Linda Vice, director of Alabama Tombigbee Tourism, agreed to take the leadership of the panel. Other regional tourism directors as well as the Alabama and Mississippi state tourism departments were represented. Attendees mapped out three important elements in moving forward:
 - Determine the tourism markets and opportunities in the region and build upon existing projects/initiatives.
 - Identify key tourism professionals, build a tourism network, and collaborate on key projects. The primary objective is economic growth, with an emphasis in building an entrepreneurial base with product development.
 - Share marketing opportunities.
5. The WAEM Commission on March 6, 2008, affirmed an updated WAEM WIRED Implementation Plan, which has been submitted to DOL for review. The WAEM Commission also affirmed a revised budget to provide for WIRED activities through the extended period of the grant, i.e., from a conclusion on Jan. 31, 2009 to Jan. 31, 2010 (see Appendix B).
6. The WAEM Initiative will partner with a group of university and non-profit organizations to bring a new Place Building Initiative to our rural communities (see Appendix C). Led by the University of Alabama's Center for Economic Development, this partnership includes MainStreet Mississippi, the Center for Urban Studies at Auburn University, Your Town Alabama, and the Carl Small Town Center at Mississippi State University. The WAEM Commission affirmed this project at its March 6 meeting. Key components of this place building initiative include:
 - a. Training for community and junior college staff in asset-based rural place building;
 - b. Expand Alabama's innovative, charette-driven Small Town Development Initiative program to Mississippi and add WAEM communities to Alabama's program;
 - c. Develop a bi-state "WAEM Town" program for local officials based on Alabama's highly successful Your Town program; and
 - d. Use these programs to better engage the WAEM Mayors Network.
7. The M3 Credential went public. Speaking for the WAEM Alliance, Drs. Mitchell and Elliott officially announced the M3 Credential on March 17, 2008. "Today we unveil the M3 Credential, the final piece of our new system to create a globally competitive workforce for our West Alabama – East Mississippi region," said Dr. Mitchell. "Coupled with the 'anytime, anywhere' modern manufacturing training system announced by Governor Barbour last October and a \$4 million direct investment at our eight colleges authorized by Governor Riley, the M3 Credential makes West Alabama and East Mississippi ready to compete for the best manufacturing jobs in the world," said Dr. Elliott (see Appendix D).
8. On March 19, ECCC received the following message from one of its principal manufacturers. Nothing could affirm the investment in our "anytime, anywhere" Amatrol training system more than the following:

We, at Taylor have tried to help our workforce gain training that would benefit them and in turn benefit our company. Over the years, we have received training and support from East Central Community College and ECCC has done a very good job in anything we have needed. We have not utilized more of these services because it is difficult to get our people to classes after work.

Since your group came up and presented the Amatrol program, we have had increased interest in more training. This is because we can work at our own pace through the modules that are of interest to us. We are starting with our Maintenance Group and our Manufacturing Engineering Group. There are so many topics that the Amatrol Modules cover, we all have a list of topics we want.

Rodis Shealy---Manufacturing Engineering Group Leader-- Taylor Machine Works, Inc., Louisville, MS.

Goal 1 – Stand-up and embed the capacity to identify key assets and strengths, target opportunities, and recruit champions to build an Enterprise-Ready region.

Nisa Miranda, leader of the WAEM Place Building Initiative, and other project leaders met with CCJC staff to review the proposed program and begin to engage CCJC staff in planning and implementation of the new program.

Community college teams continue to conduct community outreach by engaging community leaders and informing them on the new innovations available through the WAEM Initiative. Teams are engaged in community involvement and development meetings to see how best the WAEM Initiative can support these efforts. (See Appendix E for information on communities engaged for both Goal 1 and Goal 2.)

- JCJC opened the Jasper County learning Center. This center has afforded the staff the opportunity to service the citizens of Jasper County; rather than the citizens having to leave the area and travel to Ellisville, MS.
- The Economic Development Association of Alabama has partnered with Beville State Community College to provide Community Leadership Educational Opportunity training via BSCC's distance learning facilities in Fayette, Marion, Pickens, and Walker Counties. This free, 12 module training program is designed to bring economic and community building knowledge to community leaders (mayors, city council members, county commissioners, etc.). The BSCC Team will introduce the ERDS process during the training. Training will begin in July 2008.

Goal 2 – Cultivate community and regional entrepreneurship.

A main priority of the quarter was to promote the entrepreneurial website MyBiz.am. In addition, teams secured additional service providers and Resource Partners for the MyBiz Network. Teams also worked diligently to distribute Start It Cards and gather information for

additional communities. Teams continue to network in the communities – meeting, identifying, and securing resource partners. Also, on January 30, 2008, Gray Swoope Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority announced funding to take the MyBiz program statewide in Mississippi.

- EMCC secured Starkville Development Partnership as a Network Navigator.
- EMCC distributed Start It Cards in Starkville, Sturgis, and Maben. These cards are being circulated throughout the cities and in Oktibbeha County.
- EMCC has prepared three additional Start It Cards for the communities of Columbus, Artesia, and Crawford. These will be printed and distributed in the next quarter.
- ECCC distributed 12 out of 15 Start It Cards to communities in their five county districts.
- ECCC developed a Start It Card for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. This card has been placed in the Tribal Office of Economic Development and distributed to the eight Tribal Council members representing each Tribal community.
- ECCC secured three new MyBiz Resource Partners: Community Development Partnership, Leake County Development Association, and Central Electric Power Association.
- BSCC secured four MyBiz Resource Partners: AL Entrepreneurial Resource Network, Aliceville Industrial Development Board, Aliceville Public Library, and West Alabama Economic Development Authority.
- BSCC distributed Start It Cards to 10 of their 11 community connectors in Walker County.
- 100 Start It Cards were distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Greene, Hale, Sumter, and Tuscaloosa Counties.
- SSCC secured two non-profit service providers: Tuscaloosa Employment Services, Easter Seals of West Alabama.
- SSCC was scheduled to roll out phase two of their Start It Card Implementation plan to ten communities. This has been moved to the next quarter.
- WCCS developed and distributed Start It Cards for two communities in Perry County, AL.
- WCCS begin collecting Start It Card data for the targeted communities in Lowndes County.

Goal 3 – *Credential, certify, and transform to a regionally-branded workforce.*

Plans are in place to train technical faculty, existing business/industry staff, and pre-employment trainers at the community colleges on the entire advanced manufacturing training and credentialing system set forth in the WAEM Workforce Training Framework, including the “anytime, anywhere” Amatrol training system, the M3 Credential, and new advanced manufacturing training equipment.

- EMCC provided training for a West Point High School teacher to instruct CRC training for 11th and 12th grade students at the school.

- 100 students at EMCC received CRC, Basic/Advance Manufacturing Skills, and M3 credentialing briefings as part of their job force entry planning.
- BSCC acquired a building to conduct M3 Credential assessments and related training. The team also ordered their M3 equipment scheduled for delivery in early June.
- The Workforce Development Staff at Shelton State Community College has put a plan in place to educate technical faculty and staff on the values of Career Readiness Certificates.
- WCCS attended both the Lowndes County and Tombigbee Workforce Planning Meetings to discuss career readiness recruitment and training.
- SSCC will provide AMATROL Training for the entire technical faculty in the spring.

Goal 4 – Engage high schools and youth in regional branding and Enterprise-Ready activities.

The U.S. Department of Labor implemented a new secondary school aged youth policy, which prohibited any activities that targeted students under the age of 16 years. This new policy halted WAEM WIRED strategies to promote career technical skills for students in upper elementary and middle school. WAEM WIRED has rewritten its Goal 4 statement and now focuses on impacting students 16 years and older.

We have compiled a state-wide articulation comparison of career technical programs for Mississippi and Alabama and identified courses offered in both states .We also have identified a process for high school students to get Career Readiness Certificates and earn dual credits for high school and the community college in certain cases.

We are currently developing a WAEM Youth Video project as a way to engage high school students in better understanding the opportunities in technical careers. We are working with our colleges to develop incentive awards for video winners (Scholarship dollars). Videos they produce will be placed on a WAEM “You Tube” type site for the WAEM Region. A strong partnerships has been developed with Dr. Lisa Barfield from the Ross Collins Career Technical School in Meridian, MS.

Current Activities/Projects being conducted by Goal 4 Taskforce:

- Established relationship with Alabama’s Regional Apprenticeship Program State Director, Greg Collins. Mr. Collins plans to reach out to his counterpart in Mississippi and present an apprenticeship program to our community colleges.
- Identified M3 skills for high school students based on state-wide articulation comparisons. Skills include Machine Tool Technology, Welding, Drafting, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration, and Electrical Technology. High school students in these courses will be our priority for the video project.
- Developed a working partnership with Mississippi Association of Career and Technical Educators to obtain training for teachers in Alabama’s REAL Program. REAL is an entrepreneurship curriculum option that teachers can incorporate into their current curriculum. Currently two staff members are certified to teach REAL.

- The Southern Mississippi Youth Entrepreneurship Program, pilot program of Jones County Junior College, held its second retreat at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, January 25. The theme of the retreat was, “I Am My Own Boss.” Students heard valuable information regarding business funding from the USSBA, bankers, ADP, and the SBDC. The SMYEP also rolled out a new website: <http://smyeps.ning.com>

Other: TMI published a WAEM News Flash every week during the quarter. These electronic messages highlight WAEM developments and link readers to stories on the WAEM.us website or the MyBiz.am website. TMI also published an electronic newsletter in February. Hard copies were mailed or hand delivered by CCJC partners to all mayors in the WAEM region.

Update on Strategic Partnership Activities:

The new Place Building Initiative through the University of Alabama (see above) builds a strong partnership between our community and junior colleges and university/non-profit organizations already engaged in place building activities. This initiative engages Auburns Center for Urban Studies, MainStreet Mississippi, Your Town Alabama, and the Carl Small Town Center for the first time in WIRED activities. This initiative has been designed for sustainability. Noteworthy is the strong interest in the new partners to maintain engagement with the community colleges.

Efforts to extend the MyBiz entrepreneur development program in both Alabama and Mississippi have resulted in new strategic partnerships. The Mississippi Technology Alliance (MTA) is integrating MyBiz into its Innovation Led Economic Development program. MTA sees MyBiz as both a community linkage as well as a foundational resource for its program. Through connections to the Alabama Blackbelt Initiative, a University of Alabama graduate class is contributing expertise and time in developing improvements to the MyBiz.am website. Included in these efforts is the design of a sign-in system that will allow us to track usage by entrepreneurs, troubleshooting, and website design.

The Montgomery Institute’s new alliance with the East Central Mississippi Health Network (an AHEC) has resulted in promising partnerships with the University of Mississippi Medical Center and the University of Alabama. More on these developments next quarter.

Update on Leveraged Resources in Support of WIRED Activities:

In March, WAEM WIRED was notified of its selection to submit a pre-application to the National Fund for Workforce Solutions. TMI submitted a pre-application on behalf of the entire region, targeting advanced manufacturing as the critical sector.

The Riley Foundation in Meridian, MS, awarded TMI a summer intern to support the Goal 4 Youth Video Project (see above). This award provides a \$3,000 stipend to the student for use toward his or her higher education.

List of Any Metrics Developed and Being Utilized in the WAEM WIRED Region:

During the last quarter, WAEM WIRED focused intensely on developing metrics for this initiative. The revised WAEM WIRED Implementation Plan shown in Appendix B incorporates these metrics into the plan. A copy of the numerical metrics report is included in Appendix F.

Challenges to Project Process:

No new issues.

Promising Innovation Processes and Success Stories:

In its February 2008 report “Exploring Rural Context and Opportunities,” the National Fund for Workforce Solutions profiled The Montgomery Institute and its work with WAEM WIRED as model of an “opportunistic partnership focus” for regional workforce development initiatives. The report, prepared by the Aspen Institute, stated, “WAEM utilizes an opportunistic and decentralized approach to working in the communities in its multi-state service area.”

- Fifteen members of an Advanced HVAC at EMCC class have requested assistance for business start-up information. This group is scheduled to attend a class in the fall as part of the EMCC Entrepreneurship Institute.
- Entrepreneurship classes have been started at two Jasper County, MS schools in the JCJC service area. Thirty-six students are enrolled at Bay Springs and five in Stringer.
- The BSCC Team developed a MyBiz Logbook which is maintained by each community to capture connections within that community’s network of support.
- In February, ECCC participated in a five county district Workforce Council Meeting. The ECCC Team discussed the impact of the WIRED Grant, MS Entrepreneurial Network, MyBiz.am, Start It Cards, and the M3 credentials. Printed literature was given to 37 public officials, economic developers, business and industry leaders. The same materials were emailed to an additional 300 community leaders in the five county district.
- The ASCC Team secured 14 scholarships from the Wilcox County Community for students to attend the ASCC Thomasville Accelerated Welding Program. In addition, the team collaborated with the Wallace Community College Selma Team to network with the community to solidify transportation for the scholarship recipients.
- The Economic Development Association of Alabama partnership with Beville State Community College (see Goal 1) has great potential for alignment with the WAEM Palce Building Process.

The following is a chronology of events during the quarter:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1.11.08 | WAEM Alliance Meeting at TMI, Meridian MS
Attendees: 18 |
| 1.18.08 | WAEM Staff Planning Meeting, Meridian MS (Working and planning meeting)
Attendees: 29 |
| 2.01.08 | Goal 4 Taskforce Meeting Teleconference (Working and planning meeting for Goal 4 activities)
Attendees: 9 |

- 2.15.08 WAEM Staff Planning Meeting, Selma AL (Working and planning meeting)
Attendees: 29
- 2.27.09 WAEM Tourism Panel Meeting, University of West Alabama, Livingston, AL (organizational meeting).
Attendees: 13
- 3.06.08 WAEM Commission Meeting at TMI, Meridian MS
Attendees: 15
- 3.28.08 WAEM Staff Planning Meeting, Meridian MS (Working and planning meeting)
Attendees: 24

Other Information:

See Appendices A through F.

WEST ALABAMA – EAST MISSISSIPPI
ENTEPRISE-READY REGIONAL INITIATIVE

**WAEM ALLIANCE
BY-LAWS**

1. Membership

Charter Allies

A Charter Ally in the **WAEM Alliance** will be limited to Alabama Southern Community College, Beville State Community College, Shelton State Community College, and Wallace Community College – Selma in Alabama; East Central Community College, East Mississippi Community College, Jones County Junior College, and Meridian Community College in Mississippi; and The Montgomery Institute, a charitable non-profit regional leadership organization in Meridian, Mississippi. Charter Allies will become active members by signing a Memorandum of Agreement.

Allies

Allies may be Universities, K-12 institutions, community and economic development organizations, and other agencies or institutions that commit to cooperate and carry out the mission of **WAEM Alliance**. Charter Allies and Allies will work together to improve services in the areas of workforce, community, and economic development on a regional basis as well as to increase the opportunities to leverage funding for regional initiatives as specified in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

To become an Ally will require submitting a request for membership and will be contingent upon approval by a simple majority vote of the **WAEM Alliance Council**. The **Council** may establish conditions for membership it deems appropriate, including the assessment of fees. Upon approval by the **Council** and signing of a Memorandum of Agreement, organizations that desire to participate will designate a delegate in writing to serve as the Ally's representative.

Associates

Any person who is associated with a Charter Ally or Ally and is identified in writing by the institution's designated representative may become a **WAEM Alliance Associate**. Associates may attend any meeting or event and become a member or Program Officer of any **WAEM Alliance** Program. The Chairman shall inform Charter Allies, Allies, and Associates of meetings and events.

2. WAEM Alliance Council

The WAEM Alliance **Council** is comprised of the presidents of the Charter Ally institutions. Each president shall be designated as the preferred representative who will represent the Charter Ally as a member of the **Council**. A president may send an alternate to represent him or her at **Council** meetings. These representatives will have the authority to act on behalf of the institution.

Appendix A

The presidents of the Charter Ally colleges shall be the voting members of the **Council**. The president of The Montgomery Institute shall be the non-voting Chairman of the **Council**.

The **Council** is responsible for the overall governance and management of the **WAEM Alliance**. In practical terms, the **Council** makes the financial decisions and adopts the policies and procedures that the **WAEM Alliance** needs to operate efficiently. The Montgomery Institute shall be the agent of the **Council** and carry out its directives by order of its president, the chairman of the **Council**. The **Council** has final authority on all matters concerning **WAEM Alliance** activities. The **Council** shall:

- A. Set policy and objectives.
- B. Determine programs.
- C. Select the committee and task force members and chairpersons.
- D. Develop rules, if any, on grant and research proposals.

The **Council** may amend these by-laws as specified in Section 6.

The **Council** shall meet at the call of the Chairman but at least once a quarter with one meeting designated as a plenary session.

A quorum shall require attendance by at least six voting Charter Allies. Attendance may be accomplished by electronic means.

Decisions of the **Council** are by simple majority of the **Council** members present after having established a quorum at the initiation of any meeting. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairman of the **Council** may continue deliberations, set the motion aside until a future time, or declare the motion defeated.

The **Council** will elect each year a President and Vice President for a two (2) year term on a rotational basis and may elect other officers/positions as deemed necessary.

The role of the Chairman, in consultation with the Council President, shall be to seek consensus and to bring organization to the work for the **WAEM Alliance**. The Chairman shall have the following powers and duties:

- a. to convene, recess, and adjourn meetings of the **WAEM Alliance Council**;
- b. to prepare the agenda for **Council** meetings, which the **Council** may approve and amend once it convenes;
- c. to preside at all **Council** meetings, including placing motions for action, tallying votes, and announcing results;
- d. to recommend, in cases of tie votes, changes or amendments to motions or proposals in an effort to arrive at consensus or achieve the required majority vote; in cases where the **Council** is hopeless deadlocked, the Chairman may delay action on the item until the next meeting;
- e. to preserve order;
- f. to see that the procedures, policies and actions of the **Council** are carried in to effect; and,
- g. to appoint committees subject to a majority approval of said **Council**.

Appendix A

The Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all committees.

The Chairman may designate a senior person from The Montgomery Institute to perform all duties of the Chairman in the Chairman's absence.

Minutes and other secretarial duties of the **Council** shall be maintained by staff of The Montgomery Institute, which shall also be the Custodian of all of the records, books and documents of the **WAEM Alliance**.

3. Regional Programs and Committees

The **WAEM Alliance** shall authorize programs related to the entire region. Programs will focus on priority issues around which members will work cooperatively to achieve the mission and goals of the **WAEM Region**.

Any Charter Ally, Ally, or Associate who sees the need to establish a program may make a proposal to the **Council**. Such proposal must be in sufficient detail to determine outcomes, costs, and feasibility. If approved by the **Council** as a program, the Chairman shall seek to determine and recommend who among the Charter Allies, Allies, or Associates will serve on a Program Committee.

The Chairman or his/her designee shall call the first meeting of the Program Committee. Subsequent meetings of the Program Committees shall be convened by the Program Committee Officers.

The Program Committee may establish additional rules for eligibility to serve as a voting member of any Program Committee provided such rules are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

A quorum of any Program Committee shall be three-fifths (3/5th) of Program Committee members.

The work of each Program Committee will include making recommendations on how **WAEM Alliance** members could cooperate to enhance inter-institutional/agency understanding and solutions to the issues under consideration. Program Committees are also encouraged to organize seminars and workshops about the activities of the committee to educate regional community and business leaders.

4. Sub-Regional Projects and Task Forces

In cases where issues and opportunities may be primarily pertinent to a sub-region within or overlapping the **WAEM Alliance Region**, the **WAEM Alliance Council** may identify Projects related to said sub-region. Rules governing Projects will be the same as those for Programs, except that supporting groups shall be called Task Forces. The **Council** Chairman may recommend who shall be included in a proposed project and serve its task force.

To the extent practical, Projects shall of interest and proposed by at least three different Charter Allies. The **Council** may vote to make exceptions to this requirement on a case by case basis.

Appendix A

5. Funding for Programs and Projects

The **Council**, Program Committees, and Project Task Forces may seek external funding for authorized **WAEM Alliance** Projects.

6. Provisions for Amending By-Laws

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the **Council** by a two-thirds (2/3rd) majority vote of all Charter Allies after the **Council** members have considered the proposed amendment(s) for a minimum of two weeks prior to the meeting.

Appendix B

WAEM WIRED Implementation Plan

Updated April, 2008

Goal 1 Stand-up and embed the capacity to identify key assets and strengths, target opportunities, and recruit champions to build an Enterprise-Ready region.					
KEY STRATEGIES	PARTNERS (*indicates lead)	CRITICAL ACTIVITIES / TIMELINES	√	METRICS (measureable outcomes)	LONG-TERM TRANSFORMATIONS
1.1 Build the capacity of the eight WAEM WIRED region community and junior colleges to facilitate -- and the two area research universities to advise -- asset and strength identification, opportunity targeting, champion recruitment activities, and place building efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI* • 8 CCJCs* • ADECA • RUPRI • Goal 1 Committee • WAEM Commission • Universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form and staff a GOAL 1 Place Building Committee co-chaired by CCJC presidents. Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Community and junior colleges (CCJCs) will provide Goal 1 field staff. Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Recruit technical assistance to help create the Place Building process. Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 11/3/2006 • Partner with area research universities for trend analyses and market/niche opportunity identification Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 1/31/2007 • Gather, review, and cull information from existing research, studies and reports Launched: 7/28/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Submit Place Building process and implementation plan to GOAL 1 Place Building Committee Launched: 9/29/2006; Completed: 12/14/2006 • Submit Place Building Process and implementation plan to WAEM WIRED Commission for approval. 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p><i>NOTE: Non-measureable outcomes are denoted by the checkmarks to the left. Only measureable metrics are included here.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop capacity at CCJCs to implement community and regional Place Building activities • Develop better and ongoing partnerships between CCJCs and local and regional leaders • Develop an environment which encourages regional perspectives and alliances • Maintain WAEM.US website to serve as an information

		<p>Launched: 12/14/2006; Completed: 1/25/2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train staff and partners for the WAEM Place Building Process Launched: 12/14/2006; Completed: 1/25/2007 <p>• Complete a baseline assessment of the region's economy Launched: 1/25/2007; Completed: 2/28/2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile information on current economic/workforce development initiatives and synthesize findings of existing reports Launched: 1/25/2007; Completed: 2/28/2007 • Complete preparations for regional roundtables Launched: 1/25/2007; Completed: 2/28/2007 • Hold four regional roundtables and one super regional roundtable to compile economic assets identified by regional champions Launched: 2/28/2007; Completed: 4/15/2007 • Complete preparations for the Governors' Summit Launched: 4/15/2007; Completed: 5/14/2007 • Improve and update the Place Building process as experiences and input with and from communities occur Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: Ongoing • Train community college, university, TMI, and other participating partner staff for Phase II. Launched: 1/25/2007; Completed: 8/28/2007 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number WIRED staff training events held <i>Target: 27</i> • Number of Goal 1 specific training events <i>Target: 6</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Regional Roundtables held <i>Target: 5</i> • Number attending Regional Roundtables <i>Target: 201</i> 	<p>resource for the region</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deploy the WAEM.US website that can serve as a technical resource, a current events information source, and a success celebration source Launched: 3/31/2007; Completed: 8/28/2007 Maintain and continually update the WAEM.US website Launched: 8/29/2007; Complete: Ongoing 	√ √		
1.2 Pull together local and regional community, business, education and other leadership to utilize Goal 1 Place Building process information to plan and implement local and regional economic, workforce, and community development initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMI* 8 CCJCs* RUPRI Goal 1 Committee WAEM Commission Economic and workforce developers MainStreet Universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Phase I planning at a regional, Governors-convened Summit Launched: 5/14/2007; Completed: 5/14/2007 Affirm selected near-term development initiatives Launched: 5/14/2007; Completed: 5/31/2007 Prioritize and implement regional initiatives Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 Implement Phase I regional initiatives Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 Prioritize the most promising long term directions for the region and engage regional leadership to take necessary steps to make them a reality Launched: 5/14/2007; Complete: Ongoing Work with communities to initiate Place Building planning, develop plans, and implement Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 Monitor and support community implementation of Place Building activities in the region Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 	√ √ √ √	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number attending the Governors' Summit <i>Target: 181</i> Number of Goal 1 Community Place-Building initiatives started <i>Target: 53</i> Number of Goal 1 Community Place-Building initiatives completed <i>Target: 25</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a prioritized, long-term economic and workforce vision for the region Develop and maintain community understanding of the importance of Place Building and planning

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold events/presentations to celebrate Place Building successes and highlight innovation Launched: 5/14/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 Publish a newsletter and distribute articles to news outlets about Place Building initiatives and successes Launched: 11/15/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of events held to celebrate Place Building <i>Target: 25</i> Number attending events <i>Target: 618</i> Number of newsletters published <i>Target: 15</i> 	
1.3 Utilize a persistent Place Building process to develop and engage local and regional leadership; encourage innovation; transform workforce culture, build regional identity, and sustain such efforts beyond the grant period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMI* 8 CCJCs* MainStreet Program RUPRI WAEM Commission Universities Mayors AHECs Tourism organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name the region Launched: 5/14/2007; Completed: 5/31/2007 Create a broad-based WAEM Regional Council and hold periodic meetings to promote regional activities and planning <i>Launch: 7/15/2009; Complete: 10/15/2009</i> Transition WAEM Commission to a new broad-based WAEM regional council <i>Launch: 10/15/2009; Complete: 1/15/2010</i> Describe and promote GOAL 1 and GOAL 2 innovations at national conferences Launched: 10/1/2006; Complete: Ongoing Create and sustain a WAEM Mayors Network to address regional community interests Launched: 10/12/2007; Complete: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> √ √ √ 	<p>(See 2.4c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of WAEM region mayors participating in the WAEM Mayors Network <i>Target: 80</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the region with a brand identify that unites communities and regional leadership Engage community leaders to actively participate in and take ownership of the WAEM region-building process Develop regional healthcare cluster strategies Develop regional tourism cluster strategies Develop regional wood products cluster strategies

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a regional Place Building leadership institute (WAEM Town) to train leaders, identify and communicate best practices, and apply quality improvement review <i>Launch: Fall 2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> • Associate and cooperate with Area Health Education Councils (AHECs) in Alabama and Mississippi to pursue strategies to accomplish the healthcare employment and training priority set at the Governors' Summit Launched: 1/1/2008; Complete: 7/31/2008 • Present healthcare strategies to WAEM WIRED Commission for review and affirmation <i>Launch: 8/1/2008; Complete: 8/31/2008</i> • Implement healthcare strategies <i>Launch: 9/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> • Create a bi-state Tourism Panel to pursue strategies to accomplish the tourism priority set at the Governors' Summit Launched: 2/27/2008; Complete: 7/31/2008 • Present tourism strategies to WAEM WIRED Commission for review and affirmation <i>Launch: 8/1/2008; Complete: 8/31/2008</i> • Implement tourism strategies <i>Launch: 9/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> • Hold regional conferences and summits related to GOAL 1 regional priorities Launched: 5/14/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of community leader contacts <i>Target: 3,135</i> • Number attending WAEM Town events <i>Target: 60</i> • Number of regional conferences and events regarding regional priorities <i>Target: 12</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain WAEM Town Leadership Institute
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage integration of Place Building methods into local leadership development/strategic planning programs Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 	v	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number attending regional conferences and events <i>Target: 1400</i> 	
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**Goal 2:
Cultivate community and regional entrepreneurship.**

KEY STRATEGIES	PARTNERS (*indicates lead)	CRITICAL ACTIVITIES / TIMELINES	√	METRICS (measurable outcomes)	LONG-TERM TRANSFORMATION
<p>2.1 Design a regional, integrated My Biz Entrepreneur Network and Enterprise-Ready Development System to spur and sustain and community entrepreneurship, and build the capacity of WAEM WIRED region community and junior colleges to deploy the MyBiz Entrepreneur Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI* • 8 CCJCs* • ADECA • RUPRI • Goal 2 Committee • WAEM Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form and staff an Enterprise-Ready Development System Committee (ERDS - Goal 2 committee) co-chaired by CCJC presidents Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Obtain commitments and agreements from CCJCs to provide staff for the support of the Goal 2 strategy Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Recruit technical assistance to help design the MyBiz Entrepreneur Network and ERDS Launched: 7/15/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Train CCJC GOAL 2 staff on Entrepreneurship development components Launched: 7/15/2006; Completed: 2/15/2007 • Meet with regional and state workforce and economic development entities to gather input for ERDS Launched: 8/1/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Design the Enterprise-Ready Development System and prepare to implement Launched: 8/1/2006; Completed: 12/14/2006 • Submit MyBiz and ERDS implementation plans to WAEM WIRED commission Launched: 12/14/2006; Completed: 1/25/2007 • Affirm the MyBiz and ERDS implementation 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p><i>NOTE: Non-measurable outcomes are denoted by the checkmarks to the left. Only measurable metrics are included here.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Goal 2 trainings held <i>Target: 6</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build regional capacity for entrepreneurship training and nurturing • Establish capacity to develop small businesses equal to the current capacity to recruit manufacturers

		<p>plan Launched: 1/25/2007; Completed: 1/25/2007</p>			
<p>2.2 Stand-up the MyBiz Entrepreneur Network with special attention to minority business support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAEL • 8 CCJCs* • TMI* • Universities • RUPRI • MyBiz Resource Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map entrepreneur education and training programs at each community and junior college, university, K-12 school, and WIA center in the region. Launched: 5/1/2007; Completed: 7/31/2007 • Assess availability and access issues related to education and training programs above; identify gaps; and make recommendations for improvement. Particularly assess barriers to minority participation. Launched: 5/1/2007; Completed: 7/31/2007 • Develop a regional plan to provide and enhance needed entrepreneur education and training programs at CCJCs, universities, and WIA Centers. <i>Launch: 8/1/2008; Complete: 10/31/2008</i> • Present regional entrepreneur education and training plan for affirmation by the WAEM WIRED Commission. <i>Launch: 11/1/2008; Complete: 11/30/2008</i> • Implement the regional entrepreneur education and training plan (this activity may overlap Innovative Workforce System initiatives in Goal 3 and should be coordinated with such). <i>Launch: 12/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2009</i> • Map and load into the MyBiz.am website state and national entrepreneurial resources, services, and programs. Also map the state and national entrepreneurial policy environment. Launched: 5/1/2007; Completed: 11/30/2007 • Map and load into the technical resource 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of persons beginning entrepreneurship training by CCJCs <i>Target: 355</i> • Number of persons completing entrepreneurship training by CCJCs <i>Target: 176</i> • Number of individuals participating in and/or completing Entrepreneurship Education/Training/Assessment using WIRED funds and created their own business <i>Target: 80</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a sustainable single-site resource guide for all entrepreneurs in the region. • Build a strong entrepreneurship training and education system for the region. • Reduce barriers to entrepreneurship and business start-ups across the region. • Increase the number of individuals starting new business either through CCJC entrepreneurship training or access to the MyBiz entrepreneurship network – ten year target: 1,135

		<p>website state and national minority business resources, services, and programs. Launched: 5/1/2007; Completed: 11/30/2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map and load into the technical resource website district and regional entrepreneurial resources, services, and programs. Launched: 5/1/2007; Completed: 11/30/2007 • Design and deploy the MyBiz .am technical resource website complete with a virtual resource directory, entrepreneur development advisor, client services database, and other innovative functions. Launched: 5/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 • Continually update the technical resource website. Launched: 12/1/2007; Complete: ongoing • Identify and map technology transfer and innovation commercialization programs within the region. Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: ongoing • Link CCJCs and communities to technology transfer and innovation commercialization programs within region. Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: ongoing • Formalize the MyBiz system of support tying service providers together, building collaboration among them, and linking them to entrepreneurs and communities. Launched: 1/1/2008; Complete: ongoing • Provide access for all service providers to the technical website common-client database. Launched: 2/1/2008; Complete: 7/31/2008 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of unique hits to MyBiz.am website <i>Target: 50,000</i> • Number of registered users of MyBiz.am <i>Target: 27,800</i> • Number of MyBiz Resource Partners added to the network <i>Target: 100</i> • Number of MyBiz users self-reporting they started their own business within the WAEM Region <i>Target: 90</i> 	
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<p>2.3 Build the capacity of communities to connect to MyBiz and use Place Building to transform themselves into Enterprise-Ready Communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 CCJCs* TMI* Universities MainStreet Communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit each community and identify a “first champion,” a community connector, and information to put on the communities’ Start-It Cards. Launched: 11/30/2006; Complete: 3/31/2008 Train community connectors to distribute Start-It Cards and collect and report contact information for entrepreneurs. Launched: 1/26/2007; Complete: 6/30/2008 Train staff at Alabama Career Links and Mississippi WIN Centers to serves as connectors and/or navigators. Launched: 1/26/2007; Complete: 9/30/2008 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of MyBiz Community Connectors recruited and trained <i>Target: 163</i> Number of MyBiz Community Start-It Cards developed and distributed <i>Target: 146</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute a sustainable, accessible, comprehensive resource directory for the region. Enhance and encourage partnership-building and capacity building among resource providers in the region

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and train MyBiz Network Navigators throughout the region to whom community connectors will refer entrepreneurs for services. Launched: 1/26/2007; Complete: 9/30/2008 • Through community connectors and the MyBiz.am website connect entrepreneurs to service providers. Launched: 1/26/2007; Complete: ongoing • Work with communities to initiate ERDS Place Building planning, develop plans, and implement plans over time Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 • Monitor and support community implementation of Place Building activities in the Region. Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of MyBiz Network Navigators identified and trained <i>Target: 48</i> • Number of community connector referrals <i>Target: 660</i> • Number of MyBiz.am users accessing the Resource Navigator <i>Target: 25,000</i> • Number of Goal 2 community place building initiatives (ERDS) started <i>Target: 57</i> • Number of Goal 2 community place building initiatives (ERDS) taken to Community Rollout <i>Target: 21</i> 	
<p>2.4 Sustain Place Building activities to develop and engage local, district, and regional leadership, build robust</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 CCJCs* • TMI* • WAEM • Comission • Universities • MainStreet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link entrepreneurs, service providers, and MyBiz Communities into robust networks to share successes and problems, identify new opportunities, and continuously improve MyBiz and ERDS offerings. Launched: 11/30/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 	√		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the leadership capacity of the region's current and potential leaders • Create a focused

<p>networks, encourage innovation, transform workforce culture, and build regional identity.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold district and regional conferences related to entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial networking. Launched: 11/30/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 • To sustain Enterprise-Ready and place Building activities beyond the grant implementation period, create a broad-based WAEM Regional Council and hold periodic meetings to promote regional activities and planning. <i>Launch: 7/15/2009; Complete: 10/15/2009</i> • Transition WAEM Commission to a new broad-based WAEM regional council. <i>Launch: 10/15/2009; Complete: 1/15/2010</i> • Create a regional Place Building leadership institute (WAEM Town) to train leaders, identify and communicate best Enterprise Ready practices, and apply continuous improvement review to Enterprise-Ready systems. <i>Launch: Fall 2008; Complete: ongoing</i> • Describe and promote GOAL 1 and GOAL 2 Place Building innovations at regional and national conferences. Launched: 10/1/2006; Complete: ongoing • Assess the successes/failures of the MyBiz Entrepreneur Network; identify commonalities and gaps; develop a sustainable MyBiz plan. <i>Launch: 2/1/2009; Complete: 3/31/2009</i> • Meet with local, regional, and state partners and leaders to gather input <i>Launch: 2/1/2009; Complete: 3/31/2009</i> 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of entrepreneurship conferences held <i>Target: 3</i> • Number attending entrepreneurship conferences <i>Target: 300</i> <p>(see 1.3c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of presentations on WAEM initiatives and innovations at regional and national conferences <i>Target: 12</i> 	<p>approach to region-building through transformational place-building activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase regional awareness of place- and entrepreneur-building activities through conferences and events.
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**Goal 3:
Credential, certify, and transform to a regionally-branded workforce.**

KEY STRATEGIES	PARTNERS (*indicates lead)	CRITICAL ACTIVITIES / TIMELINES	√	METRICS (measureable outcomes)	LONG-TERM TRANSFORMATION
<p>3.1 Using community and junior colleges as the operators and innovative jobs and Goal 1 regional analyses as the guides, build regional, innovative Enterprise-Ready Workforce systems to help credential, certify, transform, and brand the workforce.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI* • 8 CCJCs* • ADECA • CAEL • RUPRI • Goal 3 Committee • WAEM Commission • Economic Developers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form and staff an Enterprise-Ready Workforce Systems Committee (GOAL 3 Comm) co-chaired by CCJC presidents to develop and implementation plan for this goal Launched: 1/25/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Community and junior colleges (CCJCs) and their workforce directors will play key roles in this strategy. To provide for this, TMI must obtain presidential commitments, formal agreements, and commitments of staff and other resources. CCJC staff in collaboration with area universities, TA, and TMC will help develop GOAL 3 initiatives. They will then implement the GOAL 3 plan and operate the GOAL 3 initiative. Launched: 7/1/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Recruit additional needed technical assistance (TA) to help develop Enterprise-Ready Workforce systems in collaboration with CCJCs and TMI. (TA from Goal 1 will also help with this goal.) Executive necessary contracts. TA will provide evaluation and design help for the GOAL 3 Plan, help develop the certification and credentialing plan (Strategy 3.2), and assess existing workforce training programs (Strategy 3.3), assess and recommend K-12/youth development programs, and help CCJCs, universities, and TMI institutionalize expertise 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p><i>NOTE: Non-measureable outcomes are denoted by the checkmarks to the left. Only measureable metrics are included here.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Goal 3 specific training events <i>Target: 9</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase innovative workforce training capacity at the community and junior colleges in the WAEM region • Increase emphasis on collaborative training focused on key industries for the region • Build partnerships to gain consensus on needed training for jobs of the future

		<p>needed to drive the GOAL 3 process in the future. Launched: 7/15/2006; Completed: 11/3/2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct assessments of existing workforce training programs. Launched: 8/15/2006; Completed: 8/1/2007 • Meet with regional and state workforce and economic developers and other partners to gather input on existing programs and needed programs. Launched: 1/26/2007; Completed: 5/14/2007 • Using input from the Goal 1 Summit, develop the regional GOAL 3 Workforce Training Framework and submit it to the WAEM WIRED Commission for review. Launched: 5/14/2007; Completed: 5/31/2007 • Implement GOAL 3 Workforce Training Framework including advanced manufacturing/M3 Credential Plan. Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in Goal 3 Workforce Training systems and equipment <i>Target: \$4,430,000</i> 	
<p>3.2 Implement a Regional Workforce Training Framework (certification and credentialing) that builds common language and credentials across jurisdictions, emphasizes skills certification and helps brand the regional workforce.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCJCs* • TMI* • WAEM Commission • MDES • ADECA • Manufacture rs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and compare existing and proposed credentialing and certification agreements in Alabama and Mississippi, identify gaps and common areas, and with TA help propose a regional approach and agreement that will brand the regional workforce and accomplish this strategy. (Parallel statewide initiatives may serve this same purpose.) Launched: 8/1/2006; Completed: 5/31/2007 • Form the WAEM Alliance of community and junior colleges and adopt a regional agreement as policy of WAEM region. Launched: 6/1/2007; Completed: 1/31/2008 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a permanent bi-state, regional workforce vehicle to coordinate regional credentialing and training initiatives and brand the workforce • Increase emphasis on innovative and accessible training across the region • Increase capacity for

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) credential developed in Alabama to develop a similar credential for Mississippi. Launched: 6/1/2007; Completed: 9/30/2007 • Encourage use of CRCs as the foundation for advanced manufacturing training in the Region. Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 • Implement an anytime, anywhere innovative access advanced manufacturing training system to support the M3 Credential and other advanced manufacturing training needs in the Region. Launched: 2/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2010 • Implement Regional M3 Credentials and related training systems. Launched: 2/1/2008; Complete: 3/1/2008 	<p>v</p> <p>v</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of CRCs awarded by CCJCs <i>Target: 3335</i> • Number of individuals registered in the Amatrol “anytime, anywhere” training system <i>Target: 4275</i> • Number beginning M3 Production Level Credential program <i>Target: 3065</i> • Number beginning M3 Advanced Production Level Credential program <i>Target: 832</i> • Number completing M3 Production Level Credential program <i>Target: 1620</i> • Number completing M3 Advanced Production Level Credential program <i>Target: 540</i> • Number entering advanced mfg training at CCJCs <i>Target: 4500</i> 	<p>CCJCs to provide targeted training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a sizeable cohort of M3 Credentialed workers to help existing manufacturing clusters move to high-productivity/ high technology value-added production and to help attract new advanced manufacturing clusters and innovation jobs to the region <i>10-Year Target: 11,220</i>
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<p>3.3 Establish a regional network of workforce training professionals to share expertise, develop regional access to specialized programs, and continuously recommend improvements to workforce training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI* • CCJCs* • CAEL • ADECA • MDES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy time of CCJC workforce directors to implement with strategy. Launched: 6/25/2006; Complete: 1/31/2010 • Workforce directors and CAEL assess existing workforce programs per Strategy 3.1 Launched: 8/15/2006; Completed: 8/1/2007 • Recommend improvements and regionalization opportunities to existing workforce systems and programs. Launched: 8/1/2007; Complete: ongoing • Submit recommended improvements to the 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase emphasis on continuous improvement for workforce training systems • Increase partnership building capacity and networking capacity across the region, leading to sharing innovation

<p>credentialing, certification, and branding programs.</p>		<p>WAEM Alliance for review and action. Launched: 2/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement WAEM Alliance approved improvements as they occur. <i>Launch: 6/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> Network community and junior college, WIA, university, and other workforce training professionals to share expertise, continually identify regional approaches to training, and review credentialing, certification, and branding programs. <i>Launch: 4/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> Annually survey network participants to identify needed improvements, eliminate problems, and gauge activity. <i>Launch: 9/30/2008; Complete: annual</i> 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of surveys completed identifying needed regional training improvements <i>Target: 858</i> 	<p>and best practices</p>
<p>3.4 In collaboration with workforce and economic developers, develop the “brand” for the regional workforce, publish data about the brand, and begin outreach efforts to make the brand know.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMI* CCJCs WAEM Alliance WAEM Commission Economic developers Workforce developers Universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using the M3 Credential and MyBiz Entrepreneur Network as the basis, engage CCJC workforce directors; local, regional and state economic developers; local regional, state WIA professionals; university partners; and others to forge a “branding” strategy for the regional and its workforce. <i>Launch: 6/1/2008; Complete: 12/15/2010</i> Present branding strategy to the WAEM Alliance and the WAEM WIRED Commission for review and affirmation. 	<p>√</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a permanent regional workforce credentialing system to coordinate regional training initiatives and brand the workforce Increase emphasis on innovative and accessible training across the region

		<p><i>Launch: 1/1/2009; Complete: 1/31/2009</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affirm branding plan. <p><i>Launch: 1/1/2009; Complete: 1/31/2009</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement branding strategy and outreach activities. <p><i>Launch: 2/1/2009; Complete: 1/31/2010</i></p>	√		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase capacity for CCJCs to provide targeted training
<p>3.5 Determine the market demand for delivery of workforce and entrepreneurship training over Broadband Internet throughout the rural WAEM region, investigate options for meeting this demand, and develop a Broadband Funding and Implementation Plan. Parts of this strategy may overlap with initiatives in Strategy 3.2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI* • CCJCs • Broadband Committee • Commission • Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form and staff a broadband committee (BBC) of community and junior college workforce directors and other interested partners. Launched: 10/1/2006; Complete: ongoing • Assess broadband availability in the Region as well as market demand. Review options and develop a broadband plan. Launched: 1/15/2008; Complete: 8/31/2008 • Affirm Broadband Funding and Implementation Plan if market demand warrants. <i>Launch: 9/1/2008; Complete: 9/30/2008</i> • Secure funding for broadband adopted plan. <i>Launch: 10/1/2008; Complete: 7/31/2009</i> • Implement adopted broadband plan (if funded). <i>Launch: 8/1/2009; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> 	√		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build awareness of the need for broadband for training and education across the region. • Develop partnerships with broadband providers to deliver affordable, accessible services to individuals and businesses needing broadband for training.

**Goal 4:
Engage high schools and youth in regional branding and Enterprise-Ready activities.**

KEY STRATEGIES	PARTNERS (*indicates lead)	CRITICAL ACTIVITIES / TIMELINES	√	METRICS (measureable outcomes)	LONG-TERM TRANSFORMATION
<p>4.1 Find innovative and appropriate places in public school curricula/programs to integrate/enhance regional-brand skill development, provide incentives for schools to integrate such skill development, and train teacher trainers and program leaders to integrate the skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI* • 8 CCJCs • WAEM Commission • Goal 4 Committee • Other partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form and staff a Goal 4 Committee co-chaired by CCJC presidents to develop a strategic plan for this goal. Launched: 7/15/2006; Completed: 9/29/2006 • Utilize technical assistance (TA) Goals 1 and 3 and other TA to help develop this plan. Launched: 9/29/2006; Completed: 12/14/2006 • Recommend school skill program strategic plan to the Goal 4 Committee. Launched: 9/29/2006; Completed: 12/14/2006 • Affirm initial school skill program strategic plan. Launched: 12/14/2006; Completed: 1/25/2007 • Meet with local, regional, and state school leadership to gather input on existing programs and needs. Launched: 1/25/2007; Completed: 8/31/2007 • Form a Goal 4 Task Force of interested partners to identify and assess existing skill development programs in schools, determine regional-brand skills identified in Goal 3, and develop a Skill Integration Plan. Launched: 1/1/2007; Complete: 4/30/2008 • Affirm WAEM Skill Integration Plan. <i>Launch: 5/1/2008; Complete: 5/30/2008</i> • Recruit high schools and youth to participate in WAEM skill programs. <i>Launch: 6/1/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p><i>NOTE: Non-measureable outcomes are denoted by the checkmarks to the left. Only measureable metrics are included here.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of high schools that agree to offer WAEM skills in their programs <i>Target: 61</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase partnership building between high schools and CCJCs, leading to greater training and educational opportunities for youth

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform and provide materials to teachers and trainers at participating schools and in participating programs. <i>Launch: 7/15/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of students reached <i>Target: 350</i> 	
4.2 This strategy deleted as a result of new DOL directives on engaging youth under the age of 16. Activities retained are now incorporated in Strategy 4.1					
4.3 Explore credit-based secondary to post-secondary transition programs such as dual enrollment as means to broaden, align, and accelerate school Enterprise-Ready learning experiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMI* 8 CCJCs WAEM Commission Goal 4 Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide leadership to high-school-to-college initiative. Launched: 1/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2009 Identify and assess existing Enterprise-Ready high school-to-college programs and map policy opportunities and barriers. Launched: 2/15/2007; Complete: 1/31/2009 Review and cut useful information from existing research, studies, and reports relevant to dual enrollment and other high school-to-college programs. Launched: 2/15/2007; Complete: 1/31/2009 Meet with regional and state educators and business leadership to gather input. Launched: 6/1/2007; Complete: 1/31/2009 Recommend Enterprise-Ready high school-to-college plan. <i>Launch: 2/1/2009; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> Affirm high school-to-college plan. <i>Launch: 8/1/2009; Complete: 8/15/2009</i> Pursue plan implementation and funding with state education authorities in both states. <i>Launch: 9/1/2009; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of high school students dual enrolled in WAEM Skills programs in CCJC <i>Target: 79</i> Number of educator and business leadership input meetings <i>Target: 16</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build partnerships between educators in high schools and CCJCs and business leaders Seamless transition from high school to college

<p>4.4 Encourage business leadership to partner with high schools and youth programs in establishing Enterprise-Ready programs and recognize exemplary programs with a "Governor's Seal" award.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 CCJCs* • TMI • WAEM Commission • Local businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop criteria and name for a "Governor's Seal" award program to recognize businesses supporting implementation of school/youth skill programs. <i>Launch: 4/1/2008; Complete: 8/15/2008</i> • Present Governor's Seal program plan to WAEM WIRED Commission for review. <i>Launch: 8/16/2008; Complete: 8/31/2008</i> • Affirm Governor's Seal program plan. <i>Launch: 9/1/2008; Complete: 9/15/2008</i> • Promote Governor's Seal program to schools, youth programs, and business leaders. <i>Launch: 9/16/2008; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> • Hold regional award programs. <i>Launch: 3/15/2009; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> • Publish recognition details in local media. <i>Launch: 3/15/2009; Complete: 1/31/2010</i> 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of businesses receiving Governors' Seal awards <i>Target: 16</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase emphasis and recognition for school-business partnerships
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Memo

To: Steve Walkley and Bill Hornsby
 From: Dr. Bill Scaggs and Bill Crawford
 Date: 4/25/2008
 Re: WIRED Budget Overview

As you know, DOL extended the WAEM WIRED grant through January 31, 2010. We have been reviewing the overall WIRED program budget in order to cover the period of this extension.

We have developed a revised program budget as shown in the chart below:

PARTNER	ORIGINAL BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET
ADECA	\$ 1,890,105	\$ 1,890,105
Subtotal Admin. Budget	\$ 1,890,105	\$ 1,890,105
TMI	\$ 4,556,179	\$ 3,905,832
MDA	\$ 372,408	\$ 232,755
COLLEGES (including Bonner)	\$ 8,181,308	\$ 8,971,308
Subtotal Program Budget	\$13,109,895	\$13,109,895
TOTAL	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000

This proposed budget revision:

- moves money from TMI to the colleges so that they can have partial funding for the fourth year
- and eliminates MDA with Crawford moving to TMI.

This budget can be accomplished by reducing staffing and personnel costs at TMI, reducing (but not eliminating) the amount of money allocated for university activities, eliminating RUPRI and other outside consultants, and reducing “estimated” costs that turned out to be much less.

If this macro budget is acceptable to you, we will move forward with specific budgets from the colleges and TMI and preparing documents for the WAEM WIRED Commission to review.

Our intention is to ask the colleges to provide you Feb. 2008 through Jan 2009 budgets. TMI will submit a 6-month budget that will be extended once DOL commits final funding.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Proposal: Place Building Initiative for the West Alabama/East Mississippi WIRED Region

February 2008

The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development

Nisa Miranda, Director

Phone: 205-348-7058

nmiranda@aitc.ua.edu

SUMMARY

The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development (UCED) will provide planning services, technical assistance and training to elected officials, community leaders and WIRED Community College staff from communities and small towns in the West Alabama and East Mississippi WIRED Region.

The project has three main objectives:

- 1) To provide training and expert support in the delivery of the assets-based illustrative master planning process and methodology that has been developed through YourTown Alabama and the Auburn Urban Studio Small Town Design Initiative (STDI) Program.
- 2) To identify implementation support needed in WIRED communities, and provide training, mentoring support and guidance to WIRED Community College staff in their technical assistance efforts; and
- 3) Training and support to create a WAEM Mayor network.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The assets-based illustrative master planning process that has been developed by YourTown Alabama, the UCED and the Auburn University Urban Studio (AU-US) through its STDI is a proven methodology for helping small towns and communities develop strong competitive tools for revitalization, promotion, recruiting, partnership building and managed decision making and development.

WIRED has recognized the utility of this methodology to build potential in their WAEM project areas and proposes to engage with the key staff and facilitators of YourTown, AU-US and UCED to train staff at Mississippi's Main Street Program and WAEM Community College WIRED staff.

This training will enable an expanded service to communities in Alabama and new opportunities for communities in Mississippi. By developing a strong understanding of the process/methodology and concepts of assets-based planning in the WIRED

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community college staff, there will also be stronger capacity building on-the-ground and continuity and leveraging of the work done in the workshops and charrettes of this two year project.

UCED and Auburn Urban Studio will constitute the work team. UCED will manage the project, provide mentoring to the technical assistance delivered by WIRED staff, and be the primary point of contact. AU-US will manage the staff and provide primary training. YourTown Alabama will partner to provide access to their training workshops, programs and resources.

WORK PLAN

The Project Work Team will provide the following services:

- I. Training and Involvement of Community College WIRED Staff
 - A. Presentation of work program - Feb. 15, 2008 – Selma introduction to concepts/methodologies of assets-based planning introduction to YT, STDI, etc.
 - B. Inclusion as staff in upcoming STDI's in WAEM work area (throughout project period).
- II. Assign managed work on implementation projects in existing STDI communities in Alabama (second quarter of project)
- III. YourTown workshop - June 2008
Approximately 20 WIRED staff will participate in the regularly scheduled YourTown workshop, scheduled for June 18-20, 2008.
- IV. Assessment of STDI Communities in Alabama
Assessment of current work through STDI's in Alabama WIRED area to determine appropriate and needful near-term projects for implementation by WIRED staff. (first and second quarters of project)
 - A. AU-US staff will assess STDI's in WIRED area to determine current status of STDI master-plan and identify projects that WIRED staff can support in the community to advance the potential of the community.
 - B. AU-US and UCED will assign appropriate projects to WIRED staff and will supervise and evaluate their work and the project impact/results.
- V. Four STDI Charrettes in Alabama, Assistance to Mississippi Main Street with Two Charrettes
 - A. AU-US will lead and manage STDI charrettes to create illustrative master-plans for four communities. The process will include WIRED staff and

Appendix C

MSMS staff and an array of professional volunteers as part of the training program. Dates for charrettes to be determined by the assessment process and training schedule.

B. AU-US will assist Mississippi Main Street with two charrettes (2); and will lead and manage one charrette (1) in the Alabama WIRED region for 2008. AU-US will deliver three charrettes (3) in the Alabama WIRED region in 2009. Communities will be determined by UCED assessment of towns' ability to leverage the work of the STDI and in consultation with the WAEM WIRED management.

VI. WAEM Town Training Workshops

Two (2) YourTown training workshops will be organized, each accommodating 50 WIRED civic and elected leaders (total of 100 participants) with the first workshop to be in the Fall of 2008 and the second in the Fall of 2009. These will be scheduled between October 15th and November 15th, with the location to be determined in conference with TMI management.

- A. WIRED staff will be included in the regularly scheduled YourTownAlabama Program in June 2008
- B. Two WAEM Town workshops will be planned and presented for the staff and community leaders in designated WAEM areas
- C. It is anticipated that some of the communities in the Fall 2008 YT will be STDI candidates in 2009

VII. Training and Support to Create a WAEM Mayors Network.

UCED will engage Mayors in the WIRED region to encourage a leadership network to support on-going planning and development that is responsive to the challenges and changing shared economy.

VIII. Work with 6 communities, Utilizing the Charrette Process

Mississippi MainStreet will undertake 6 charettes over the two year WIRED Initiative.

Each project will consist of a process that will include a one day assessment, 3 day charette, final report with public presentation and follow up from Mississippi Main Street District Directors over several years after the public presentation. The end product will be a working document that the community can use as a guide to revitalize their town and stimulate economic growth. The initial working document will take 3 months per community. A team of architects, city planners, economic development professionals, preservation professionals, architectural students and other Main Street Professionals will join the MMSA Staff to complete each project.

Appendix C

Communities will be selected by WIRED Initiative representatives in Mississippi and the Executive Director of MMSA.

IX. BUDGET

WAEM Place Building Initiative University of Alabama Center for Economic Development		
BUDGET		
Salary/Benefits-N Miranda	\$10,209	
UCED Support Personnel	\$3,250	
Travel/Office Expenses	\$3,814	
Sub Contracts	\$120,000	
Mississippi Mainstreet	\$140,000	
Your Town*	50,000	
Sub Total	\$327,273	
University Overhead **	\$32,727	
TOTAL	\$360,000	

* Your Town cost based on lodging and meal cost of \$ 200 for 50 participants/15 staff as negotiated with Camp McDowell, Nauvoo, Alabama. Other locations would have to meet similar facilities/lodging cost.

**Overhead limited to 10% as required by contractor, WAEM WIRED.



For more information contact Jolie Woods: [601-483-2661](tel:601-483-2661) or tmijolie@bellsouth.net

New M3 Credential Will Make WAEM Workforce Competitive

Workers with verified skills will attract modern manufacturing jobs to West Alabama and East Mississippi (WAEM). That is the cornerstone strategy of the WAEM Initiative sponsored by Governors Bob Riley and Haley Barbour. Monday, WAEM Initiative leaders announced the final mechanism to put this strategy in place.

“Today we unveil the M3 Credential, the final piece of our new system to create a globally competitive workforce for our West Alabama – East Mississippi region,” said Dr. James Mitchell, president of the WAEM Alliance and president of Wallace Community College – Selma. The WAEM Alliance is a formal consortium of the eight community and junior colleges in the 37-county WAEM region.

“Coupled with the ‘anytime, anywhere’ modern manufacturing training system announced by Governor Barbour last October and a \$4 million direct investment at our eight colleges authorized by Governor Riley, the M3 Credential makes West Alabama and East Mississippi ready to compete for the best manufacturing jobs in the world,” said Dr. Scott Elliott, vice-president of the WAEM Alliance and president of Meridian Community College.

“M3” in the M3 Credential name stands for “modern multi-skill manufacturing.” The M3 Credential was developed by the workforce directors and career tech leaders at the eight WAEM Alliance colleges after a summit hosted by Governors Riley and Barbour last May chose advanced manufacturing as the WAEM region’s top priority.

“We’ve got to get more serious about our workforce and job training needs in our states,” Governor Barbour said at the summit. “And, we have to expect, rely on, and count on our community colleges to take the lead.”

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Governor Riley echoed the call for community colleges to provide leadership. “If you don’t provide the services we’re going to need over the next two to three years, that will be the limiting factor in our ability to compete,” he said.

The colleges and their workforce and career tech professionals took this charge to heart. They identified skills used and needed at local advanced manufacturers as well as those at worldwide companies.

For example, the M3 Credential matches up well with Toyota training requirements. “My review of types of skills taught to workers recently hired for Toyota Manufacturing in North Mississippi shows the M3 Credential matching up very well,” said Dr. Shannon Campbell, Dean of Workforce Development at Jones County Junior College. “These skills represent the basic requirements that modern manufacturers expect from people they hire.”

“The M3 Credential is based on national skill standards established for advanced manufacturing,” explained Roger Whitlock, credential taskforce leader and workforce director at East Central Community College. “The M3 skill-sets will qualify workers in a variety of occupations requiring applications of technology.”

Economic developers see the M3 Credential as a boon to their job creation and retention efforts.

“This will let us prove that our region has competent qualified workers,” said Phillis Belcher, executive director of the Greene County Industrial Development Board. “A credentialed workforce will make us highly competitive,” said Wade Jones, president of the East Mississippi Business Development Corp. in Meridian. Both are members of the WAEM Commission appointed by the governors to oversee the WAEM Initiative.

“This region is building one of the most innovative, accessible, advanced manufacturing training systems in the United States” Governor Barbour said.

The M3 Credential will be available to incumbent workers, dislocated workers, underemployed workers, and students seeking to “verify” their skills. By verify, the WAEM Alliance means workers actually demonstrate the skills.

“This is not just a paper and pencil test,” says Whitlock. “This is authentic, hands-on assessment of modern manufacturing skills.” To accommodate workers, WAEM Alliance colleges will hold open assessment labs on Saturdays. At least one of the eight colleges in the region will hold an open lab on each Saturday. Workers interested in being assessed for the credential will need to make an appointment.

The “anytime, anywhere” modern manufacturing training system will allow workers to prepare for the M3 assessments at home, at work, at libraries, and any location with broadband Internet access. The eight colleges will also offer instruction on these skills.

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The eight colleges intend to have all components of the training system and M3 Credential operational by June 1. For more information, contact one of the eight participating colleges: Alabama Southern Community College, Bevill State Community College, East Central Community College, East Mississippi Community College, Jones County Junior College, Meridian Community College, Shelton State Community College, and Wallace Community College – Selma.

For more information on the M3 Credential and the WAEM Initiative, go to www.WAEM.us on the Internet.

The WAEM Initiative and the M3 Credential result from a Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs serves as the fiscal agent; The Montgomery Institute as the program manager.



WAEM

West Alabama–East Mississippi

Appendix E

Community Engagement Reports

Alabama Southern Community College

Community Involvement Matrix

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	Beatrice									
2	Butler*									
3	Camden *									
4	Castleberry									
5	Coffeeville									
6	Dayton									
7	Demopolis									
8	Evergreen *									
9	Excel									
10	Faunsdale									
11	Frisco City									
12	Fulton									
13	Gilbertown									
14	Grove Hill*									
15	Jackson									
16	Linden*									
17	Lisman									
18	Monroeville *									
19	Myrtlewood									
20	Needham									
21	Oak Hill									
22	Pennington									
23	Pine Apple									
24	Pine Hill									
25	Providence									
26	Repton									
27	Silas									
28	Sweet Water									
29	Thomaston									
30	Thomasville									
31	Toxey									
32	Vredenburgh									
33	Yellow Bluff									

Legend
Choctaw
Clarke
Conecuh
Marengo
Monroe
Wilcox
N/A

Service Area: Alabama Southern Community College

*Please NOTE: this only represents changes updated on the community involvement matrix since the previous quarter. Unless a task has been fully accomplished, the matrix does not denote it as being complete.

ALL COMMUNITIES: The ASCC Team is acting as a Network Navigator for all of the communities in our six county service region.

Thomasville: In the past quarter, the ASCC Team has also trained and identified a community connector who is reporting referrals. The ASCC Team is also the Network Navigator for Thomasville. Because of the accompanying Business Guide that Thomasville has, referrals from the connector are less in number than if the Business Guides were not in place.

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 an array of focus groups centered on Infrastructure, Tourism/Recreation, Youth Retention, Economic Development, and Education for the development of a town-wide strategic plan.
- The ASCC Team continues to assist the Choctaw County Board of Education in regards to equipment needs and workforce development issues for Junior and Senior students.
- Start-It Cards for all seven incorporated communities in Choctaw County have been printed and are set to be distributed in the beginning of next quarter.

Clarke County: The following bullet points highlight what has been accomplished in this county within the last three months:

- Clarke County resource providers have been very supportive of the MyBiz.am efforts and have been entered into the Navigator as a Resource Partner.
- The Town of Coffeeville shows interest in partaking in the Rural Place Building Initiative.
- Continued active participation in Clarke County Leadership.
- Continued work with the Clarke County Development Foundation.
- Continued contact with Mayors to help assist in Workforce Development and Community Development efforts.
- Start-It Cards for all five incorporated communities in Clarke County have been printed and are set to be distributed in the beginning of next quarter (with the exception of Thomasville's, which are in circulation).

Conecuh County: Here are some quick bullet points on where the ASCC WAEM Teams stands in this county:

- An ASCC WAEM Team member has been elected to a leadership role (Captain) for the Alabama Community of Excellence Program of the city of Evergreen.

- Continued discussions on partnering with the regional economic development entity, Coastal Gateway Economic Development Authority to better service our overlapping area.
- Start-It Cards for all three incorporated communities in Conecuh County have been printed and are set to be distributed in the beginning of next quarter.

Marengo County: Here are some brief items that have occurred within the last three months from an ASCC WAEM perspective:

- Partnering with University of West Alabama to better assist the Alabama Rural Heritage Center in Thomaston, AL.
- Continued discussions with Demopolis Area Chamber of workshop and other entrepreneurial training opportunities.
- Start-It Cards for six of the eight incorporated communities in Marengo County have been printed and are set to be distributed in the beginning of next.

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:

- Continued assistance with selected members and leaders of the community in the planning and development stages of a civic facility for the county.
- Continued and constant discussions with key political and civic leaders regarding the issues facing Monroe County and actions necessary to resolve these issues.
- Continued active participation in Monroe County Leadership Now.
- Start-It Cards for all five incorporated communities in Monroe County have been printed and are set to be distributed in the beginning of next.

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:

- Secured 14 Scholarships in Wilcox County to the ASCC Thomasville Accelerated Welding Program.
- Worked in conjunction WCCS to solidify transportation for the recipients of the scholarships in Wilcox County.
- Active participation in the Workforce Development, Economic Development, and Community Development Task Forces of the Alabama Rural Action Committee.
- Start-It Cards for all four incorporated communities in Wilcox County have been printed and are set to be distributed in the beginning of next.

Service Area: Bevill State Community College

WALKER COUNTY

Jasper

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of several key connectors and their willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connectors are listed below:

Connector: Walker County Career Center (CareeLink)
Contact: Kenneth King, Gina Nichols
Address: P.O. Box 1401, Jasper, AL 35502-1401
Telephone: 205/384-4557

Connector: Jasper City Hall
Contact: Laura Frazier
Address: P.O. Box 1589, Jasper, AL 35502-1589
Telephone: 205/221-2100

Connector: Library—Jasper Campus of Bevill State
Contact: John Paul Myrick
Address: 1411 Indiana Ave., Jasper, AL 35501
Telephone: 205/387-0511 (Ext. 5718)

Note: A MyBiz Logbook is located at each of the above locations. We anticipate adding additional connectors in Jasper. The ERDS process has been initiated.

Sumiton

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in the successful identification of several key connectors and their willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connectors are listed below:

Connector: Sumiton City Hall
Contact: Judy Glover, City Clerk
Address: 416 State Street, Sumiton, AL 35148
Telephone: 205/648-9191

Connector: Sumiton Public Library
Contact: Sharon Black
Address: 416 State Street, Sumiton, AL 35148
Telephone: 205/648-3262

Connector: Library—Sumiton Campus of Bevill State
Contact: Tyrone Webb
Address: P.O. Box 800, Sumiton, AL 35148
Telephone: 205/648-3271 (Ext. 5238)

Note: A MyBiz Logbook is located at each of the above locations.

Dora

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of connectors and willingness by the primary connector to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our connectors are listed below:

Connector: City of Dora
Contact: Nina Absher, City Clerk
Address: 1485 Sharon Blvd., Dora, AL 35062
Telephone: 205/648-3211

Connector: Sides Appliances & Furniture
Contact: George Sides, Mayor
Address: 121 Sharon Blvd., Dora, AL 35062
Telephone: 205/648-3124

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is located at Dora City Hall.

Additional information: The Dora Public Library is currently closed for renovations; however, upon reopening the library will serve as a connector. Due to the close proximity of Sumiton and Dora, the Sumiton Campus Library of Bevill State is a key connector for the citizens of both Sumiton and Dora. Dora City Hall is in the process of landscaping. We will take a new picture and reprint a new Start It! Card once this project is complete.

Cordova

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of key connectors and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connectors are listed below:

Connector: City of Cordova
Contact: Randall Gammon, City Administrator
Address: 74 Main St., Cordova, AL 35550
Telephone: 205/483-9266

Connector: Cordova Public Library
Contact: Wendy Courrington
Telephone: 205/483-9587

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at City Hall and arrangements have been made to place one at the library.

Parrish

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of a key connector and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connector is listed below:

Connector: Town of Parrish
Contact: Marcy Brown, City Clerk
Address: P.O. Box 89, Parrish, AL 35580
Telephone: 205/686-9991

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

Sipsey

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of key connectors and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connectors are listed below:

Connector: Sipsey Town Hall
Contact: Anita Sanders, Mayor
Address: P.O. Box 156, Sipsey, AL 35584
Telephone: 205/648-8754

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

Eldridge

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of a key connector and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connector is listed below:

Connector: Eldridge Town Hall
Contact: Bobby McGowen, City Clerk
Address: P.O. Box 99, Eldridge, AL 35554
Telephone: 205/924-4383

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

Kansas

The Start It Card has been fully developed, including community service information and picture. The cards will be printed and distributed after meeting with the Mayor. Anticipate meeting with Mayor during week of April 15th.

Connector: Town of Kansas
Contact: Ann Parrish, City Clerk
Address: P.O. Box 186, Kansa, AL 35573
Telephone: 205/924-0072

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

Oakman

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of a key connector and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connector is listed below:

Connector: Oakman Town Hall
Contact: DeAnna Woods, City Clerk
Address: P.O. Box 267, Oakman, AL 35579
Telephone: 205/622-3232

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

Carbon Hill

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of a key connector and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connector is listed below:

Connector: City of Carbon Hill
Contact: Paulie Halley, City Clerk
Address: P.O. Box 519, Carbon Hill, AL 35549
Telephone: 205/924-9961

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

Nauvoo

Status of Start It! Card: Printed and distributed.

Community engagement has resulted in successful identification of a key connector and willingness to maintain the MyBiz Logbook. Our primary connector is listed below:

Connector: Nauvoo Town Hall
Contact: Shelia Bridgeman, City Clerk
Address: P.O. 186, Nauvoo, AL 35578
Telephone: 205/697-5890

Note: The MyBiz Logbook is currently located at the above location.

MARION COUNTY

Bear Creek

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008.

The community connector has been identified as Bear Creek Town Hall with the My Biz log book to be maintained at this location.

Hamilton

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008.

Our identified community connectors are Hamilton City Hall, Beville State Hamilton Campus Library, and the Hamilton Career Center with the My Biz log book located at each location. The Career Center will also serve as a network navigator.

Guin

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008.

The identified community connector is Guin City Hall with the My Biz logbook to be located at this location. We anticipate having additional connectors in this community because of the strong support from the Mayor.

Mayor Phil Segraves, has expressed real interest in implementing “Economic Gardening,” which he learned about at the entrepreneurship conference held in Meridian. He requested that BSCC Staff coach his community through the ERDS Process and include Economic Gardening in the process. We anticipate that work in Guin will begin during the second quarter of 2008.

BSCC staff is assisting Mayor Segraves with efforts to locate an Alabama Entrepreneurial Research Network (AERN) Center in Guin at its Public Computer Lab in the High School/Public Library.

Gu-win

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are City Hall and B & B Antiques (Mayor’s business) with the My Biz logbook to be maintained at one of these locations.

Winfield

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample Card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Winfield City Hall with the My Biz logbook to be maintained at this location.

Hackleburg

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample Card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Hackleburg City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

Brilliant

Collection of community service information is complete. The next step is printing a sample Card, taking a community picture and then printing a final Card for proof by Mayor and City Clerk. Printing and distribution will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Brilliant City Hall with the My Biz logbook located at this location.

FAYETTE COUNTY

Belk

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor Ronald Waldrop and Angie Aldridge, City Clerk, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall.

Fayette

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by April 30, which is in the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor Ray Nelson at City Hall and Anne Hamner, Director of Fayette Area Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurial Research Network (AERN) Center in Fayette. The MyBiz Logbook will be maintained at City Hall and the AERN Center.

Berry

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor Roy H. Dobbs and Marie McCluskey, City Clerk, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Glen Allen

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Alan Dunavant with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at this Town Hall.

LAMAR COUNTY

Beaverton

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Joe Collier with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Detroit

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Billy Murphy with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Kennedy

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor Ray Holsenback and Buddy Vice, City Clerk, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall.

Millport

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Waymon Fields and Lynnette Ogden, Town Clerk, Town Clerk, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Sulligent

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor Scott Boman and Gary Mosley, City Manager, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall.

Vernon

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor Tommy Eskridge and Don Dollar, Administrative Assistant, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall.

PICKENS COUNTY

Aliceville

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by April 30, in the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connectors are Mayor McKinzey, Mary Bess Paluzzi, City Mgr/Clerk, and Nelda B. Hudgins, Public Library and AERN Center Director, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall and the AERN Center.

In January, BSCC staff participated in a Town Hall Meeting in Aliceville that was lead by Cheryl Morgan, (Auburn Studio) of Auburn University and Nisa Miranda of the University of Alabama. A “charette” followed in February to provide the framework for recommended community-building efforts. Upon completion of the study in Aliceville and the recommendations compiled by Auburn, BSCC plans on returning in May of 2008 to begin meeting with Aliceville community champions to develop and implement a community-building strategic plan based these recommendations.

It is noteworthy to mention that Aliceville has past failures in strategic plan efforts; however, BSCC anticipates being able to successfully coach Aliceville through the ERDS Process at this time. The reasons for these failures will be carefully explored to avoid the same pitfall in the future. Initial input is that the community needs a “simple,” “easy-to-understand-and-follow” plan to keep the community’s momentum and interest during planning and implementation stages.

BSCC has assisted Aliceville in obtaining the criteria for applying for the Alabama Community of Excellence award, which will be part of the community-building plan. Auburn Studio will be completing the project in Aliceville following an upcoming Town Hall Meeting. After this meeting, BSCC will be returning to Aliceville during the upcoming quarter to initiate coaching the community through community-building and the ERDS Process.

Carrollton

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor John Lammers with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall.

McMullen

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Essie Madison with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Ethelsville

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Tony Hayward with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Gordo

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Harold Davis with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at City Hall.

Memphis

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Eddie Windham with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Pickensville

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Mary Fuseymore with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

Reform

Collection of community service information is complete. Printing and distribution of Cards will conclude by June 30, which is the end of the second quarter of 2008. The identified community connector is Mayor Pat Wheat and Gail B. Griffin, City Clerk, with the MyBiz Logbook to be maintained at Town Hall.

East Central Community College Community Involvement Matrix

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	Sebastapol	█						█	█											
14	Louisville	█	█	█				█	█										█	
15	Noxapater	█						█	█											

Legend:

Leake County
Neshoba County
Newton County
Scott County
Winston County

Service Area: East Central Community College

Leake County: Start-It Cards for Carthage, Lena, and Walnut Grove were developed and placed in the past quarter. A workshop for entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs was held. Youth WAEM skills programs were taught in the Vo-Tech Center.

Neshoba County: Start-It Cards were developed and placed for Philadelphia and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. A referral was reported by the community connector. The Small Business Coordinator for the MBCI requested enough cards to be distributed among each of the eight Tribal Council members for their communities as well as the MBCI Office of Economic Development.

Newton County: Start-It Cards were developed and placed in Decatur, Newton, and Union. Referrals were reported by the connectors in Newton and Union. Youth WAEM skills programs were taught at the Newton County Career Tech.

Scott County: Start-It Cards were developed and placed in Forest, Morton, and Sebastopol in the past quarter. A meeting was held with business and civic leaders in Forest in which they outlined their goals and expectations for the future.

Winston County: Start-It Cards were developed and placed in Louisville and Noxapater in the past quarter with no referrals reported.

Service Area: East Mississippi Community College

West Point: West Point continues its ERDS efforts. The community connector, West Point/Clay County Growth Alliance, is keeping track of the number of referrals received for starting or growing a business. This allows us to track how and who we are assisting in the community.

Crawford: Start It Cards have been developed for this community. Contact with the community mayor has been positive. The community needs to implement a strategic plan it will use. They are open to suggestions and input.

Artesia: Start It Cards have been developed for this community. Contact with the community mayor has been positive. The community needs to implement a strategic plan it will use. They are open to suggestions and input.

Starkville: Start It Cards have been developed and circulated. Starkville Development Partnership has agreed to be a Network Navigator. Connectors in the community have also been identified.

Maben: The community has and will implement a strategic plan. Two key members of the community, Mr. and Mrs. Simmons, have been identified as first champions. Start It Cards have been developed and distributed in the community.

Sturgis: Contact has been made with community leaders. The community does have a strategic plan in place they plan to implement. Start It Cards have been developed and distributed in the community.

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 narrative 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 consists 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. Meetings have been held with the mayor and key citizens to help identify the needs of the community. The community is excited about the ERDS process.

Waynesboro: Presentation was made to the Board of Aldermen.

Service Area: Meridian Community College

Collinsville: Met with Joe Williams, owner of local Piggly Wiggly and discussed the role of a community connector. Mr. Williams will be a connector for the Collinsville area.

Marion: Met with Bernice Martin, co-owner of Martin Body Shop and owner of a local retail store in Marion. Discussed with Mrs. Martin the role of the community connector and she is interested in the role.

Meridian: Met with Darlene Mayatt, director of The Career Center located at Meridian Community College. Discussed with Mrs. Mayatt the role that the career center would play as she becomes a community connector. The career center has agreed to assume the role of a connector for the community.

Shelton State Community College

Community Involvement Matrix

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	
	Greene County																
	1 Boligee	█	█		█	█											
	2 Eutaw	█	█		█	█	█	█									
	3 Forkland	█	█		█	█	█	█									
	4 Union	█	█		█												
	Hale County																
	5 Akron	█		█	█	█	█	█	█					█	█		
	6 Newbern	█		█	█		█										
	7 Greeneboro	█		█	█	█	█	█	█					█	█		
	8 Moundville	█		█	█	█	█	█	█					█	█		
Tuscaloosa County																	
9 Brookwood	█		█	█	█	█	█						█	█			
10 Coaling	█		█	█	█	█							█	█			
11 Coker	█		█	█	█	█							█	█			
12 Lakeview	█		█	█	█	█							█	█			
13 Northport	█		█	█	█	█							█	█			
14 Tuscaloosa	█	█		█	█	█	█						█	█			
15 Vance	█		█	█	█	█	█						█	█			
Sumter County																	
16 Cuba	█		█	█	█	█		█					█	█			
17 Epes	█	█		█	█	█		█					█	█			
18 Gainesville	█	█		█	█	█		█					█	█			
19 Geiger	█	█		█													
20 Livingston	█	█		█	█	█	█						█	█			
21 York	█	█		█	█	█		█					█	█			

Legend:

Greene County
Hale County
Tuscaloosa County
Sumter County

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. Start-It Cards have been developed and circulated in seven communities. We have continued to visit the leaders of the other communities that we have been able to contact to gather information for Start-It Cards for their community. 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 Navigators has not yet been provided by TMI. Since Janina Nobles has left Shelton State, the development of the Start-It Cards for each community has slowed a little because of now having one employee for goals one and two instead of two people.

GREENE COUNTY

Boligee: The Mayor of Boligee is part-time, and it has been difficult to contact him for an appointment to gather information regarding the Start-It Card. However, Janina Nobles met with him last quarter and he is open to the WAEM initiative. I will continue to pursue him this quarter to gather the information needed.

Eutaw: Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Eutaw. Several Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Eutaw, but none have been yet reported to us by the connector.

Forkland: We contacted the Mayor of Forkland this quarter and have collected the data and identified the connector for the Start-it Card. The card has been developed and we are waiting the Mayor's approval of the card which we hope to get within a week.

Union: We will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card for the town of Union in April and May, and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated during May or June.

HALE COUNTY

Akron: Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk is serving as the connector for Akron. Several Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Akron, and the connector has referred four people this quarter based on the sign in sheet. Additional cards were provided to Akron this quarter at their request.

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, or any other Wired/Waem initiative begun.

Greensboro: Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk and librarian will serve as the connectors for Greensboro. Several Start-it cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Greensboro and I received one phone call from

an individual referred by a connector. We also provided additional Start-It cards this quarter to Greensboro at two new locations.

Moundville: Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Moundville. We provided additional Start-It cards this quarter to Moundville at two new locations. I also provided Mr. Larry Taylor, a champion in Moundville, information regarding possible future infrastructure work for the City,

SUMTER COUNTY

Cuba: I met with the Mayor of Cuba this quarter and collected data for the Start-It card. The Mayor's office will serve as the connector. We are in the process of developing the card, and anticipate it to be circulated in May.

Epes: I met with the Mayor of Epes this quarter and collected data for the Start-It card. The Mayor will serve as the connector. We are in the process of developing the card, and anticipate it to be circulated in May.

Emelle: In mid May of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-It Card. We anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May or June.

Gainesville: I met with the Mayor of Gainesville this quarter and explained the Start-It card initiative to her. She expressed interest in the card, but said she would have to meet with the other leaders of the community and get back in touch with me. I will follow up this month.

Geiger: In mid May of 2008 we will begin collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. We anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May or June.

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. Several cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Livingston, but we have had not connector referrals at this time.

York: I met with the City Clerk of York this quarter and explained the Start-It card initiative to her. She expressed interest in the card and is in the process of seeking approval from the Mayor and other community leaders. This card should also be completed and circulated in May or June.

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Brookwood: Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Brookwood. This quarter, I provided additional Start-It cards to Brookwood in another location. No referrals from the connector have been received this quarter.

Coaling: We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card. I met with the town clerk of Coaling this quarter, and she is in the process of getting approval for the Start-It card from the Mayor. We anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May or June.

Coker: I met with the town clerk of Coker this quarter and she is in the process of getting approval from the Mayor and other leaders for the Start-It card. We anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May or June.

Lakeview: I met with the Mayor of Lakeview this quarter and he approved the Start-It Card for his community. He is in the process of finding an appropriate picture for the front of the card. We anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May

Northport: We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May or June.

Tuscaloosa: We are in the process of collecting data and identifying the connectors for the Start-it Card and we anticipate having the card developed and circulated in May or June.

Vance: Start-it Card has been developed and circulated, and the town clerk will serve as the connector for Vance. Some cards have been distributed to potential entrepreneurs in Vance but no referrals have yet been sent to us by the connector.

Wallace Community College Selma

Community Involvement Matrix

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	Benton	X		X									X					
2	Fort Deposit	X	X		X	X	X						X	X	X			
3	Gordonville	X											X					
4	Hayneville	X	X		X	X	X						X	X				
5	Lowndesboro	X		X	X	X	X						X	X				
6	Marion	X		X	X	X		X					X	X				
7	Mosses	X			X		X						X	X				
8	Orrville	X						X					X					
9	Selma	X	X		X		X	X					X	X				
10	Uniontown	X		X	X		X	X					X	X				
11	Valley Grande	X						X	X	X								
12	Whitehall	X		X	X		X						X	X				

Legend:

Dallas County
Lowndes County
Perry County

Service Area: Wallace Community College Selma

Lowndes County

- Met with community leaders at the Joint Workforce Development Committee Meeting.
- Begin collecting Data for Start it Cards in all Lowndes County Communities.
- Met and identified resource partners in all Lowndes County Communities.
- Attended Lowndes County Workforce Planning Committee Meeting.
- Recruitment for Career Readiness.
- Met with counselors and superintendent at the Joint Workforce Development Committee Meeting.

Perry County

- Met with community leaders at the Joint Workforce Development Committee Meeting.
- Attended the Alabama Tombigbee Community Development Meeting.
- Developed and Delivered Start-It Cards to the two communities in Perry County.
- Met with Uniontown Administrator to create a strategy to best serve entrepreneurs in Uniontown.
- Met with owner of Lotties' (local new business) to discuss being a resource partner.
- Recruitment for Career Readiness.
- Attended Alabama Tom Bigbee Workforce Committee Meeting.
- Met with counselors and superintendent at the Joint Workforce Development Committee Meeting.
- Met with Superintendent regarding Career Readiness and Dual Enrollment.

Dallas County

- Met with community leaders at the Joint Workforce Development Committee Meeting.
- Attended the Alabama Tombigbee Community Development Meeting.
- Participated and assisted with Bridge Crossing Jubilee Festival.
- Presented and assisted with the organization of the Student Leadership Conference (Provided Work Skills Training Module to 150 students).
- Delivered, trained on Start it cards in Orrville and Selma.
- Met and identified resource partners for start it cards.
- Attend Selma/Renaissance: Workforce development Committee.
- Organized M3 Course Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting.
- Attended Alabama Tom Bigbee Workforce Committee Meeting.
- Met with counselors, principals and superintendent at the Joint Workforce Development Committee Meeting.

Appendix F

**WORKFORCE INNOVATION FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (WIRED)
WAEM METRICS PROGRESS REPORT ADDENDUM TEMPLATE**

GRANTEE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION				
1. Grantee Name: Alabama Dept. of Economic & Community Affairs/Office of Workforce Development (ADECA/OWD)				2. Grant Number 15405-06
3. Program/Project Name: West Alabama/East Mississippi (WAEM) WIRED Project				
4. Grantee Address: P O Box 5690				5. Report Quarter 3/31/20
City Montgomery			State AL 36103-5690	
				6. Report Due Date 4/30/20
GRANTEE RESULTS				
Progress Report Performance Categories and Measures	1/31/2010 Target	Previous Quarters (one time catch-up)	Current Quarter	Cumulative Grant-to-
Category 1: Education/Training/Assessment				
1 Number Beginning Advanced Manufacturing or Entrepreneurship Workforce Education/Training/Assessment Using WIRED Funds.				
a. Modern Multi-skilled Manufacturing (M3) Production Level	3065	0	0	0
b. Modern Multi-skilled Manufacturing (M3) Advanced Production Level	832	0	0	0
c. Advanced Manufacturing	4500	0	0	0
d. Entrepreneurship	355	0	0	0
2 Number Completing Advanced Manufacturing or Entrepreneurship Workforce Education/Training/Assessment Using WIRED Funds.				
a. Modern Multi-skilled Manufacturing (M3) Production Level	1620	0	0	0
b. Modern, Multi-skilled Manufacturing (M3) Advanced Production	540	0	0	0
c. Advanced Manufacturing	2451	0	0	0
d. Entrepreneurship	176	0	0	0
3 Number Attained Degree, Certificate, or Industry-Certified Credential as a Result of Workforce Education/Training/Assessment Using WIRED Funds.				
a. Number of Production Level M3 Credentials Awarded	1620	0	0	0
b. Number of Advanced Production Level M3 Credentials Awarded	540	0	0	0
4 Participants Placed				
a. Number of Individuals Educated/Trained/Assessed in Advanced Manufacturing Using WIRED Funds and Placed in Manufacturing Employment, as Reported by Employment Services	400	0	0	0
b. Number of Individuals Educated/Trained in Entrepreneurship Using WIRED Funds Who Create Their Own Businesses, as Identified by Survey	80	0	0	0
5 Investment in WAEM WIRED Education/Training/Assessment				
a. Total Obligated WAEM WIRED Investment in Education/Training	\$4,430,000	\$ 430,000	\$ 2,800,000	\$ 430,000
Category 2: Capacity Building				
6 Goal 1: Region, Community, and College				
1a. Number of training events held for all staff	27	12	3	15
1b. Number of Goal 1 specific staff training events	6	6	0	6
1c. Number of Regional Roundtables held.	5	5	0	5
1d. Number attending Regional Roundtables	201	201	0	201
2a. Number attending the Governors' Summit	181	181	0	181
2b. Number of Goal 1 Community Place-Building Initiatives started	53	38	10	48
2c. Number of Goal 1 Community Place-Building Initiatives completed	25	3	0	3
2d. Number of events held to build celebrate place-building successes and highlight innovation	25	3	2	5
2e. Number attending celebration/innovation events	618	140	95	235
2f. Number of newsletters published	15	4	3	7
3a. Number of WAEM region Mayors participating in the WAEM Mayors' Network	80	25	0	25
3b. Number of community leader contacts by Community College/Junior College (CCJC) staff (duplicated)	3135	686	590	1276

3c. Number attending WAEM Town retreats	60	0	0	0
3d. Number of regional conferences and events	12	3	4	7
3e. Number attending regional conferences and events	1400	373	477	780

7 Goal 2: Entrepreneurship					
1a.	Number of Goal 2 specific training events	6	6	0	6
2a.	Number of unique hits to MyBiz.am website	50000	10879	16855	27734
2b.	Number of registered users of MyBiz.am	27800	0	0	0
2c.	Number of MyBiz Resource Partners added to the network	100	28	40	68
2d.	Number of MyBiz Users self-reporting they started their own business within the WAEM Region	90	0	0	0
3a.	Number of MyBiz Community Connectors recruited and trained	163	35	56	91
3b.	Number of MyBiz Community Start-It Cards developed and distributed	146	12	39	51
3c.	Number of MyBiz Network Navigators identified and trained	48	4	4	8
3d.	Number of Community Connector referrals	660	5	48	53
3e.	Number of MyBiz.am users accessing the Resource Navigator	25000	3572	7826	11398
3f.	Number of Goal 2 Community Place Building initiatives (ERDS) started	57	21	13	34
3g.	Number of Goal 2 Community Place Building initiatives (ERDS) taken to Community Rollout	21	1	0	1
4a.	Number of entrepreneurship conferences held	3	1	0	1
4b.	Number attending entrepreneurship conferences	300	119	0	119
4c.	Number of presentations on WAEM initiatives and innovations at conferences	12	7	0	7
8 Goal 3: Credentialed and Certified Workforce					
1a.	Number of Goal 3 specific training events	9	9	0	9
2a.	Number of Career Readiness Certificates (CRC) Awarded	3335	344	739	1083
2b.	Number of individuals registered in the Amatrol "anytime, anywhere" training system	4275	85	386	471
2c.	Number of open M3 Assessment labs	8	0	0	0
3a.	Number of surveys completed identifying needed regional training improvements	858	0	0	0
9 Goal 4: Engage Youth (16+) in Enterprise Ready Activities					
1a.	Number of high schools and youth programs that agree to offer WAEM skills in their programs	61	1	7	8
1b.	Number of students reached	350	14	69	83
3a.	Number of high school students dual-enrolled in WAEM Skills programs in CCJC	79	0	0	0
3b.	Number of educator and business leadership input meetings	16	0	0	0
4a.	Number of businesses receiving Governors' Seal awards	16	0	0	0
Category 3: Economic Indicators - Annual Figures		2007 Baseline	2008	2009	
10 Employment by Industry Cluster		NAICS Codes			
a.	Manufacturing	2007 Baseline data not available			31,32,33
a.1	Manufacturing in Established and Prospective Manufacturing Clusters				
a1a	Wood Products and Paper	2007 Baseline data not available			3211,32191,32192,3222,3371,3372
a1b	Coal, Oil, Gas, and Energy	2007 Baseline data not available			3241
a1c	Meat Processing	2007 Baseline data not available			3111,3116,3120
a1d	Textiles and Apparel	2007 Baseline data not available			3131,3132,31412,3143,3159
a1e	Plastic Products	2007 Baseline data not available			3252,3261,3262,3399
a1f	Nonmetallic Minerals	2007 Baseline data not available			3271,3272,3273
a1g	Fabricated Metals	2007 Baseline data not available			3311,3312,3313,3331
a1h	Industrial Machinery	2007 Baseline data not available			3331,3332,3333,3334,3339
a1i	Motor Vehicles	2007 Baseline data not available			3361,3362,3363
a1j	Packaged Foods	2007 Baseline data not available			3113,3115,3118,3119
a1k	Electrical and Computer Equipment	2007 Baseline data not available			334,3351,3352,3353
a1l	Chemicals	2007 Baseline data not available			3251,3253,3254
a1m	Health	2007 Baseline data not available			3254,3364
a1n	Aerospace	2007 Baseline data not available			3364
b.	Non-manufacturing	2007 Baseline data not available			all except 31,32,33
b1	Non-manufacturing Related to Established and Prospective Manufacturing Clusters				
b1a	Wood Products and Paper (supports a1a above)	2007 Baseline data not available			113
b1b	Coal, Oil, Gas, and Energy (supports a1b above)	2007 Baseline data not available			211,2121,2211,2212
b1c	Nonmetallic Minerals (supports a1f above)	2007 Baseline data not available			2123

b1d Packaged Foods (supports a1j above)	2007 Baseline data not available			111
b1e Electrical Equipment (supports a1k above)	2007 Baseline data not available			5112,515,516,4

b1f	Health (supports a1m above)	2007 Baseline data not available			621,622
b2	Established and Prospective Non-Manufacturing Clusters				
b2a	Tourism and Arts	2007 Baseline data not available			512,5615,711,712,72231,72
b2b	Transportation and Warehousing	2007 Baseline data not available			483,484,4
c.	Entrepreneurship	2007 Baseline data not available			
11	Average Wage by Industry Cluster				
a.	Manufacturing	2007 Baseline data not available			31,32,33
a.1	Manufacturing in Established and Prospective Clusters				
a1a	Wood Products and Paper	2007 Baseline data not available			3211,32191,32192,32322,3371,3241
a1b	Coal, Oil, Gas, and Energy	2007 Baseline data not available			3111,3116,31159
a1c	Meat Processing	2007 Baseline data not available			3131,3132,31412,3143159
a1d	Textiles and Apparel	2007 Baseline data not available			3252,3261,3262,3399
a1e	Plastic Products	2007 Baseline data not available			3271,3272,3273
a1f	Nonmetallic Minerals	2007 Baseline data not available			3311,3312,3313,33
a1g	Fabricated Metals	2007 Baseline data not available			3331,3332,3333,33333399
a1h	Industrial Machinery	2007 Baseline data not available			3361,3362,3363
a1i	Motor Vehicles	2007 Baseline data not available			3113,3115,3118,3119
a1j	Packaged Foods	2007 Baseline data not available			334,3351,3352,3353
a1k	Electrical and Computer Equipment	2007 Baseline data not available			3251,3253,3254,3364
a1l	Chemicals	2007 Baseline data not available			all except 31,
a1m	Health	2007 Baseline data not available			
a1n	Aerospace	2007 Baseline data not available			
b.	Non-manufacturing	2007 Baseline data not available			
b1	Non-manufacturing Related to Established and Prospective Manufacturing Clusters				
b1a	Wood Products and Paper (supports a1a above)	2007 Baseline data not available			113
b1b	Coal, Oil, Gas, and Energy (supports a1b above)	2007 Baseline data not available			211,2121,2211,2123
b1c	Nonmetallic Minerals (supports a1f above)	2007 Baseline data not available			111
b1d	Packaged Foods (supports a1j above)	2007 Baseline data not available			5112,515,516,621,622
b1e	Electrical Equipment (supports a1k above)	2007 Baseline data not available			
b1f	Health (supports a1m above)	2007 Baseline data not available			
b2	Established and Prospective Non-Manufacturing Clusters				
b2a	Tourism and Arts	2007 Baseline data not available			512,5615,711,712,72231,72
b2b	Transportation and Warehousing	2007 Baseline data not available			483,484,4
c.	Entrepreneurship	2007 Baseline data not available			
12	Unemployment Rate	2007 Baseline data not available			
13	Performance Improvement on Common Measures by WIRED Participants Region Wide as Reported by the Workforce Investment System				
a.	Entered Employment Rate (adult common measure)	2007 Baseline data not available			
b.	Employment Retention Rate (adult common measure)	2007 Baseline data not available			
c.	Average Earnings (adult common measure)	2007 Baseline data not available			
14	Number of Completers (Receive Degree or Certificate) in all WAEM Public CCJCs in WAEM WIRED Target Areas				
a.	Advanced Manufacturing	available later in 2008			
b.	Entrepreneurship	available later in 2008			
15	Number of New Business Startups or Expansions	available later in 2008			

517,518

