



Alabama Small Business Development Center Network

Strengthening Alabama's Economy, One Small Business at a Time.

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Robbie Medders Honored by Calhoun County Chamber

Jacksonville, AL

June 2011



Ms. Robbie Medders, associate director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Jacksonville State University (JSU), was awarded the 2011 Larry Sylvester Small Business Advocate of the Year Award at the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce's Annual Small Business Awards of Excellence Gala. This award recognizes individuals or organizations that continually provide assistance and support to the small businesses in Calhoun County.

Robbie is a 1974 graduate of JSU. She got her start at the JSU Small Business Development Center in 1982 and quickly demonstrated an uncommon talent and drive for helping small business owners overcome obstacles to success. While working at the SBDC, she

returned to the classroom to complete her MBA at JSU in 1994. The JSU SBDC services a seven county area of Northeast Alabama (including Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburne, Etowah, St. Clair and Talladega counties) and provides government procurement services to an additional two counties (Randolph and Clay). Annually, the SBDC assists more than 900 clients interested in starting a business or already in business.

"Robbie is a true asset to Alabama's small business community," says Michael Brooks, director of program operations for the Alabama SBDC Network. "This is not the first time that she has been recognized for her extraordinary efforts, nor will it be the last." Medders is also the 2003 recipient of the Alabama State Star award, which recognizes SBDC counselors that demonstrate outstanding performance and exemplary contribution to the small business community.

The Alabama Small Business Development Center Network is a statewide program designed to enhance economic growth in Alabama by providing management and technical assistance to small businesses. The Alabama SBDC Network is an accredited member of the most comprehensive small business assistance network in the United States. Certified business counselors are available in 12 SBDC locations across the state. ASBDC Counselors provide no-cost assistance to companies and individuals in Alabama that are interested in starting or growing a business, franchising, accessing capital, selling to the federal government, or exploring international trade.

Take action today: Call us at 877-825-7232, 205-348-1582, visit www.ASBDC.org, or email ASBDC@ua.edu.