



# Alabama Small Business Development Center Network

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

[www.asbdc.org](http://www.asbdc.org)

## Judy Callin Awarded "2011 State Star" of the Alabama SBDC Network

Troy, AL

September, 2011

Bill Cummins, State Director of the Alabama Small Business Development Center Network, announced that Judy Callin, Senior Business Consultant and Procurement Specialist for the SBDC at Troy University, has been selected as Alabama's State Star for 2011. Every year, an employee within the Alabama SBDC Network who demonstrates outstanding and exemplary performance, and significant contribution to the small business community, is honored with an Alabama Star Award.



Judy Callin was chosen for being an outstanding performer, making a major contribution to the Wiregrass Region of Alabama, and showing a strong commitment to small business in a 13 county region of southeast Alabama. Callin has been a counselor with the SBDC program since 1987, and will begin her 25<sup>th</sup> year in January 2012. She received a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Business Administration from Troy University.

Callin is a former business owner, participated in a family-owned business, and served as a bank examiner for the Alabama State Banking Department.



Her previous work experience, experience as a business owner, and business education, combined with ongoing professional development training places Judy in a very enviable position--one that most do not ever reach in their careers. Sandra Lucas, Director of the SBDC at Troy University said "I am positively thrilled that Judy was named Alabama's State Star for 2011. She is most deserving of this award, not only is Judy knowledgeable she knows how to relate to her clients and successfully transfer that knowledge. Her work ethic reminds me of a quote I once heard ***"Some people dream of success... while others wake up and work hard at it."*** I am fortunate to have her working with me here at the SBDC."

Tim Bagwell owner of BCS, LLC in Brundidge, Alabama remarked “Judy has helped us with educational programs, bid opportunities, HUB Zone certification, and any problem a company could encounter. Every program Judy has worked with us on, from continuing education to job fairs has had a tremendous positive effect on BCS and helped us rise from a sub-contractor to a general contractor working in eight states. I am glad that Judy has received this honor she most definitely deserves this recognition.”

“Judy gave me the encouragement and confidence to continue to believe in myself, follow my plan and not to be discouraged when I thought that mountain was too high to climb. My business is now a competitor in a male-dominated industry. Congratulations Judy!” stated Barbara McLain owner of McClain Contracting Company Inc., out of Covington County. Barbara won the U.S. Small Business Administration’s 2009 Small Business Person of the Year.

The nationwide network of Small Business Development Centers is a partnership uniting private enterprise, government, higher education and local nonprofit economic development organizations. It is the Small Business Administration’s largest partnership program, providing management and technical assistance to help Americans start, run and grow their own businesses. With about 1,000 centers across the nation, America’s SBDC network provided business consulting to approximately 200,000 clients, training for more than 400,000 attendees, and other forms of management and technical assistance to approximately 600,000 small businesses.

A special awards reception honoring the ASBDC 2011 State Stars was held in September in San Diego, California, in conjunction with ASBDC’s 31st Annual Conference.

---

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, disaster assistance and recovery, 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](http://www.ASBDC.org), or email [ASBDC@ua.edu](mailto:ASBDC@ua.edu).