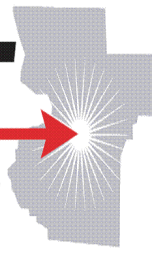




# IMPACT

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## IMPACT ACTION

March '08 Newsletter

### Workforce Development & Education

**2008 Goal:** *To improve the management skills of 100 employees.*

The first Boot Camp for First-Time Supervisors of the year took place on March 4th at the Georgia Department of Labor with a record number of 36 participants. Our next Boot Camp will take place on May 20th, and is designed for more experienced supervisors.



Valdosta attorney Rob Ryan (Moore, DuVall & Rodgers) explains the importance of understanding Workers Comp rules to a Boot Camp participant from Langdale Place.

*"As an attorney who regularly represents employers in the State Board of Workers Compensation, I see first-hand on a daily basis how having properly trained supervisors, foremen, and other first line management personnel can result in fewer work related injuries, and lower claims costs when an injury does occur. Conversely, poorly trained personnel will lead to increased incidence of work related injury and can lead to dramatically higher claims costs. I highly recommend the Boot Camp program and I believe the training provides a valuable benefit to both small and large businesses and, ultimately, to your bottom line."*

**G. Robert Ryan, Jr.**  
Moore, Clarke, DuVall & Rodgers, P.C.

*"The Boot Camp was very beneficial to me and would be for any first-time supervisor. When you start out as a new supervisor so many things are thrown at you that you never even thought you might have to deal with. This seminar really gave a great overview of different issues that will help me be successful in my future. The presenters gave great insight on how to make the transition from a boss to a leader."*

**Brittany Jones, Honey Baked Ham Manager**

**2008 Goal:** *An independent study will be conducted to determine the impact of school system organization on economic development and quality job growth with appropriate action taken once the study is completed.*

Members of the Task Force to Study the Impact of School Organization on Economic Development in Our Community met on March 13 to select a consultant to conduct the study. The Task Force unanimously to contract with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute and Fanning Institute for this important community initiative. The study will be completed by mid-year.

Members of the Task Force are:

- Rusty Griffin, Chairman
- Minister Leroy Butler
- Roy Copeland
- Joe Cordova
- Carolyn Eager
- Walter Hobgood
- Rev. John Manning
- J. C. Riley



## **Entrepreneurial and Small Business Development (Add SEEDS logo)**

***2008 Goal: To serve 500 clients in the S.E.E.D.S. Center (Sowing Entrepreneur and Economic Development Success).***

The S.E.E.D.S. Center served 27 clients during the month of February. The 4th Annual Entrepreneurs In Action will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 11:00a.m. –2:00 p.m. at the James H. Rainwater Conference Center. This event will provide services that help small businesses succeed and increase the chance for success. Special guest speaker will be Jeff Hoffman, co-founder of Priceline.com.



## **Expansion of Targeted Businesses**

***2008 Goal: To facilitate the creation of 200 new jobs for college and university graduates in Information Technology, Environmental Technology, and Medical Services and Support.***

The Environmental Technology Showcase was a great success with 105 persons representing local governments, healthcare facilities, and manufacturers in attendance. Six Environmental Technology service providers showcased their services to potential clients. Dr. Carol Couch, Director of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, was the keynote speaker. The Showcase was co-sponsored with the South Georgia Regional Development Center.

**“The environmental quality of life within a community is most definitely in the hands of the people from that community.”**

**Dr. Carol Couch, Director  
Environmental Protection  
Division**

