



Progress Report 2006 - 2008

Midlands Education and Business Alliance connects students, parents and educators to career opportunities through business partnerships, training and resources.

Dear MEBA Partners:

Just two short years ago, we stood at the threshold of two important ventures—implementing the Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA) and advancing MEBA's Midlands Middle College. Now, as we approach the end of 2008, we have much to recount and applaud.

The EEDA created 12 Regional Education Centers (RECs) throughout the state to deliver services to students, educators, employers and the community. MEBA could have viewed this as a challenge to our work over the past 16 years. Instead, MEBA has embraced the Midlands REC as a partner. Together, the two organizations have expanded their reach to better serve their constituents. The boards of both organizations saw the value of this partnership and wisely tapped Dr. Kaye K. Shaw to lead both and named Lisa Call MEBA's Chief Operating Officer.

MEBA's Midlands Middle College celebrated its third year this September. The Middle College offers a high-quality option for academic excellence to 105 students from 8 Midlands school districts. With a developing financial base, excellent leadership and a first-rate faculty, the school is thriving. If you haven't yet visited the campus or heard first-hand from its students, you must. Their stories show, without question, that what we are doing is making a difference.

On behalf of MEBA's Board of Directors, thank you for your tireless commitment and continued support.

Very best regards,

Robert Dozier
President, Homeowners Mortgage Enterprises, Inc.



Dear MEBA Friends:

Since MEBA's beginning, two things remain crystal clear. Our mission is common sense, and our work is critical. For more than 16 years, we have worked to provide brighter futures for students and a more-qualified workforce for businesses.

As a former teacher, I understand the demands educators face and the awesome responsibility to help every student find the right path. MEBA is here to help. Our field studies, job shadowing and internships, courses, speakers' guide and publications are just a few ways we can help you make your mark on the future. Thanks to the remarkable engagement of so many business leaders, we are helping hundreds of students experience "ah ha" moments when they see how the algebraic equation they learned in class today is the same one they will use as a mechanical engineer tomorrow.

In connecting education and business, MEBA realizes that parents still play the most important role in students' lives. MEBA's Your Child Is Job #1, reaches out to parents by offering sessions and resources at their places of work.

This year, my involvement with the Midlands Regional Education Center has further emphasized the significance of MEBA. As seen in the implementation of the EEDA and in the creation of Regional Education Centers across the state, MEBA is a model for what works and a catalyst for what can be achieved. Thank you for your role in our success. Together, we can be excited about what is yet to come.

Sincerely,

Kaye K. Shaw
Executive Director



What's Inside...

- Partnerships • Training
- Extended Learning Opportunities
- On the Horizon

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2008 - 2009**

DR. MARSHALL (SONNY) WHITE Jr. •
2008 – 2009 Chair
President, Midlands Technical College

BARBARA BLAU, Vice-Chair •
DP Professionals

ROBERT DOZIER, Jr., 2007-2008 Chair •
Homeowners Mortgage Enterprises, Inc.

RON ANDERSON •
NAI Avant, LLC

STEPHEN BENJAMIN, Esq •
McAngus Goudelock & Courie

KEN FASCHING •
Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce

DR. STEPHEN HEFNER •
Superintendent, Richland School District Two

DR. VENUS HOLLAND •
Superintendent, Lexington School District Two

JIM REYNOLDS •
Comfort Services/Total Comfort

VAL RICHARDSON •
Palmetto Health

DR. JASPER SALMOND •
Wilbur Smith Associates

RICK WHEELER •
The Loxcreen Company

DR. KAREN WOODWARD •
Superintendent, Lexington School District One

CAROLYN ANDREWS
Fort Jackson

ROBERT BARNETT
SC Chamber of Commerce

DR. HERBERT BERG
Interim Superintendent, Lexington/Richland School
District Five

CANDICE BORCHIK
Campus Director, University of Phoenix

MEDA COBB
Superintendent, Department of Juvenile Justice

G. STANLEY DOWD, Jr.
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co.

JIM GAMBRELL
City of Columbia

WILLIS (TRIP) GREGORY
Palmetto Health

RICK GROOMS
Sisters of Charity Providence Hospitals

DR. WILLIAM GUMMERSON
Superintendent, Lexington School District Three

DR. LINDA HAWKINS
Superintendent, Lexington School District Four

DR. SAMANTHA INGRAM
Superintendent, Fairfield County School District

MARY LYNN KINLEY
Fairfield Memorial Hospital

DR. ROBERT KIRTON
Richland School District One

TOM LEDBETTER
Midlands Technical College

SHARON LYNN
SCE&G

DR. PERCY A. MACK
Superintendent, Richland School District One

KATHY OLSON
United Way of the Midlands

NICOLE QUINN
Continental Diesel Systems

GENE ROUNTREE
Food Service, Inc.

KEELY SAYE
Catalyst Advertising

RONALD SCOTT
Community Development, County of Lexington

MARTHA SCOTT SMITH
AT&T

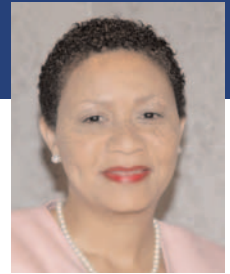
LYNN SHEALY
Mashburn Construction

DR. LES STERNBERG
Dean of Education, University of South Carolina

CHARISE WILLIAMS
Midlands Technical College, Student Advisory Board
President

*EXECUTIVE BOARD

Partnerships



“MEBA is 100% about connections. MEBA provides a neutral place where barriers are removed and the focus is on working together to make a difference in creating a highly training workforce. As a business, we’re involved in MEBA because MEBA partnerships work.”

VAL RICHARDSON
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
PALMETTO HEALTH

PARTNERSHIPS ARE AT THE CORE OF MEBA’S MISSION.

Whether as the facilitator or as a team member, MEBA works collaboratively to strengthen the connection between learning and earning. Known as the “go to” place for workforce development, MEBA brings everyone together—key players from varying perspectives—around one table to understand challenges, identify opportunities and achieve solutions.

In 2007, MEBA became the administrative partner of the new Midlands Regional Education Center. The partnership has increased MEBA’s visibility, identifying it as a model for other areas of the state. It has also broadened MEBA’s scope, emphasizing adult learners as a key part of the effort to better connect education and business.

In 2006 - 2008,

- More than 150 business partners and 130 educators are engaged in one or more of MEBA’s 10 alliances, 5 committees or Middle College task force.
- MEBA has partnered with more than 20 community organizations, 8 institutes of higher learning and all 8 Midlands school districts and the Department of Juvenile Justice to carry out projects connected to our mission.
- Educational materials valued at \$10,940 were distributed to Midlands businesses.
- MEBA partners with all Midlands chambers of commerce as well as several statewide organizations including New Carolina, Job Corps, the SC Automobile Dealers Association, SC Health Occupations Students of America, and the SC Hospitality Association.
- MEBA staff play a significant role in leading the state’s workforce development efforts by serving on several school district, college, community and statewide committees.



Dana Crowley of Lexington High School and Keller Kissam of SCE&G during MEBA’s 2008 Teachers in the Workplace course.

ALLIANCES

Architecture & Construction
Arts, AV Technology &
Communications
Business, Management &
Information Systems Technology
Education & Training
Health Sciences
Hospitality & Tourism

Law, Public Safety,
Corrections & Security
Manufacturing
Science, Technology
Engineering & Mathematics
Transportation,
Distribution & Logistics

EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Career Connections
Career Specialist
Curriculum Alignment

Equal Access
Guidance

TASK FORCES

Middle College

Training



“MEBA is invaluable to me. The hands-on experience and relationships I gain through MEBA directly impact my students by engaging them in the real world and connecting them to internship, educational and career opportunities.”

DEBBIE MANOS, WORKED-BASED LEARNING COUNSELOR, BROOKLAND-CAYCE HIGH SCHOOL, LEXINGTON TWO

MEBA BRINGS THE WORLD OF WORK TO LIFE FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS with hands-on learning and professional development opportunities. MEBA's Your Child Is Job #1 is an employer-sponsored program at worksites that helps parents support their children in areas such as career planning, Internet safety, soft skills and test taking.

In 2006-2008,

- More than 730 educators participated in 15 MEBA Educator Field Studies.
- 750 educators from Lexington-Richland Five participated in MEBA's largest-ever field study event, with visits to more than 17 business sites throughout the Midlands.
- 26 educators completed MEBA's Teachers in the Workplace graduate course.
- 383 educators have participated in MEBA's Framework for Understanding Poverty training.
- 90 educators participated in MEBA's 2008 Business Matters Seminar
- 85 individuals completed MEBA's Global Career Development Facilitator training.
- 89 Your Child Is Job #1 workshops for 19,068 parents and employees were held at 24 worksites throughout the Midlands.



Student Krysten Hartley works on a dental mold with assistance from Becky Marchi, RDH, at MEBA's Healthcare Career Day.

For a complete list of MEBA's resources, please visit www.mebasc.com/resources

Extended Learning Opportunities



Jim Reynolds, President of Total Comfort, Inc., with Cedric Brown.

“As a high school sophomore I participated in a MEBA job shadowing program that completely changed my life. That one experience helped connect me to a promising career with financial support for both my associate and undergraduate degrees. And, at only 22, I was able to buy my own home. Thank you, MEBA!”

CEDRIC BROWN, SERVICE TECHNICIAN, TOTAL COMFORT, INC.
AND UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA MECHANICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT

WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE 2005 EEDA, more emphasis is being placed on providing students with job shadowing, internship and co-op opportunities. MEBA knows that real-world work experience helps students better understand their interests, career goals and what it takes to succeed. Employers benefit as well, gaining a better qualified pool of candidates.

In 2006-2008,

- More than 574 Midlands students participated in 4 student career days hosted by MEBA.
- Educational materials valued at \$54,197 were distributed to Midlands schools, colleges and universities.
- 41 students at risk of dropping out graduated from the Midlands Middle College, with more than half continuing their education by enrolling at Midlands Technical College.



Post Office Box 2408
Columbia, SC 29202

On the Horizon

NOW MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, MEBA'S WORK IS CRITICAL.

With recent focus on the country's economy and growing workforce shortages, the need to better connect education and business is imperative. In the coming years, MEBA will:

- Offer advanced Global Career Development Facilitator training by the Midlands' only NCDA Master Trainer, MEBA's Stacey Westberry.
- Play a leading role in the launch of Connect 2 Business, a newly developed online solution for workforce development that connects students, adults, educators and local businesses.
- Publish a new engineering brochure to provide up-to-date information and connections for one of today's hottest career fields.
- Renew emphasis on reaching dropouts and those at-risk of dropping out.
- Provide Framework for Understanding Poverty training to more Midlands educators.
- Expand our Your Child Is Job #1 program, helping better connect more parents to their child's education and future.

Help us keep up the good work, please donate today!

Our goals are ambitious, but our work is essential. We know MEBA's success is possible only because of your involvement. Please continue your support of MEBA by making a donation today. **To contribute**, please mail your donation and the attached card to MEBA at PO Box 2408, Columbia, SC 29202. By providing the envelope and stamp, you help MEBA save money. **For more information** about contributions or to explore financial partnerships with MEBA that support education, workforce and economic development, please contact Holly D. Cummings, Director of Development & Philanthropic Relations, by phone at 803-290-4212 or by Email at hcummings@mebasc.com.

Thank you for your support!

MIDLANDS EDUCATION AND BUSINESS ALLIANCE STAFF LISTING

KAYE K. SHAW, Ph.D.

Executive Director

*Coordinator, Midlands Regional
Education Center*

Phone 803-822-3306

Email kshaw@scpathways.org

LISA D. CALL, GCDFI

Chief Operating Officer

Phone 803-732-5258

Email llcall@mebasc.com

KAY H. BARLOW, M.Ed., GCDFI

Community and Parent Education Director

Phone 803-790-7502

Email kbarlow@mebasc.com

HOLLY D. CUMMINGS, MMC

Director of Development

& Philanthropic Relations

Phone 803-290-4212

Email hcummings@mebasc.com

SAMANTHA ERICSON TURNER

Workforce Development Coordinator

Phone 803-732-5359

Email sturner@mebasc.com

STACEY WESTBERRY, M.Ed., GCDFI

Professional Development Director /

Regional Career Specialist

Phone 803-739-8833

Email swestberry@mebasc.com

LINDA WHITAKER

Administrative Assistant

Phone 803-822-3778

Email lwhitaker@mebasc.com

ASHLEY S. THOMAS

Communications Consultant

Phone 803-665-6818

Email ashleythomas@mebasc.com



Midlands Education & Business Alliance

Company Name *if applicable* _____
Name _____ Company Title *if applicable* _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____
Amount _____ Pledge; please bill me Contribution Enclosed

Financial contributions
made to MEBA are
tax-deductible.

Thank you!

Thank you for your support!

Please fill out, detach and mail this form along with your payment to:

Midlands Education and Business Alliance • PO Box 2408 • Columbia, SC 29202

By providing the envelope and stamp, you help MEBA save money.