



Dear MEBA Partner:

Our Annual Fund Campaign provides vital support for the many programs and activities of the Midlands Education and Business Alliance (MEBA). We are grateful for your interest and support of MEBA and would like to encourage you to generously participate in this year's campaign.

By giving generously, both personally and professionally, to MEBA's Annual Fund Campaign, you are joining other business partners, educators and friends to support MEBA and its many programs and activities. The following list highlights a few of MEBA's 2008-2009 offerings and accomplishments and shows how every gift helps to make a great difference.

- Facilitated numerous *Your Child is Job #1* presentations as well as several special televised broadcasts reaching thousands of parents in Richland One, Richland Two and Fairfield School Districts.
- Hosted 10 educator field studies for approximately 50 educators each, featuring the following career clusters: Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics; Architecture & Construction; Health Sciences; Hospitality & Tourism; Public Service; Business, Management & Administration; Manufacturing; Information Technology and Transportation, Distribution & Logistics.
- Held a Two-Day Poverty Training Seminar for more than 200 participants providing information, tips and resources for working with students and parents of poverty.
- Provided approximately 350 students the opportunity to personally explore career paths in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics; Architecture & Construction; Public Service; and Health Sciences through hands on sessions, meeting with related business partners and distributed resource materials as part of three MEBA Student Career Days.
- Published and distributed the "Career Skills Booklet" to students, parents, educators, adult learning centers and businesses to assist with resume writing, interviewing, completing a job application, dressing for success, business etiquette and more.
- Provided program support to the Midlands Middle College that graduated 98% of its senior class.

As you can see, we have been busy; still, there is much more to be done. Your gift and continued support can ensure our continued progress and success. A few of our initiatives and goals for 2009-2010 include increasing the number of businesses participating in the 12 established alliances and offering supporting programs and activities; continuing to offer poverty training seminars; increasing awareness and opportunities for *Your Child is Job #1*; and establishing a parent resource guide for parents throughout the service area.

Please know your gift serves as a strong vote-of-confidence for the staff, our board members and agencies we solicit for grant funding – an impact that goes well beyond the dollar value of the gifts. MEBA has a distinguished track record of empowering students, parents and educators in making critical, important life decisions. Today, we are putting an even stronger emphasis on this initiative as we support the regions initiatives in education and workforce development.

I hope you will consider making a gift to MEBA's Annual Fund Campaign. Thank you for all you do to help advance the mission of MEBA.

Sincerely,

Barbara Blau  
Chair, MEBA

Lisa D. Call  
Chief Operating Officer