

Starting a Small Business is Focus of Daylong Workshop July 11 in Clarksdale

Contributed by Rebecca Lauck Cleary
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Registration deadline is July 8 for GrowDelta Initiative event

What: GrowDelta Initiative workshop on starting a small business

When: July 11 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Location: The Cutrer Mansion, 109 Clark St., Clarksdale

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch from Ground Zero Blues Club and all materials)

To Register: Visit [GrowDelta](#) for details or stop by the Hambone Art Gallery, 111 E. Second St., Clarksdale

Deadline: Registration should be received by July 8

OXFORD, Miss. - A workshop for anyone thinking about starting a small business in the Mississippi Delta is scheduled July 11 in Clarksdale, sponsored by the newly formed GrowDelta Initiative. Participants can learn how to manage small business finances, tap into local resources, market and brand their business, and find a great business idea. The workshop also includes a question-and-answer session with successful business owners in the area.

The workshop is set for 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Cutrer House/Coahoma Higher Education Center at 109 Clark St. The cost is \$10, which includes lunch from Ground Zero Blues Club. Registration deadline is July 8. To register or for more information, visit <http://www.growdelta.com>.

"Our focus is on serving as an incubator and enabler for those considering new business ventures in the region," said Charles Noble, GrowDelta Initiative founder and University of Mississippi associate professor of business. "We focus on both high-level strategic business thinking and nuts-and-bolts practical guidance, both of which are necessary to succeed in today's marketplace."

"The driving focus of the GrowDelta Initiative is to create a 'cycle of success' whereby individuals can grow and learn from our programs and later give back to future generations of budding entrepreneurs through mentoring, education and support."

The GrowDelta Initiative is a nonprofit, independent group dedicated to fostering economic growth and development in the Mississippi Delta region. It was started by Noble and Emily Broad, a postdoctoral fellow at the Social Science Research Center of Mississippi State University and a Delta Clinical Fellow with Harvard Law School.

Noble said he wanted to do something to give back to the state in an area with greatest needs. "Fortunately, I am involved with people who have been able to propel the idea forward, and it has already grown past the initial vision and taken on tremendous momentum," he said.

For assistance related to a disability, call 662-915-1362.