



TO: MEDC Membership

FROM: Tom Troxler, MEDC President  
Joy Foy, MEDC Vice President of Community Development

DATE: October 1, 2011

SUBJECT: Community Economic Development Awards Program (CEDA)

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This year MEDC will once again join with the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and the Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC) in sponsoring the Community Economic Development Awards (CEDA) to honor communities throughout Mississippi for their efforts to advance their economic viability through economic and community development programs.

We all know that economic development is not a solo practice. We team with government, the private sector, and many others to make our communities competitive. This CEDA program focuses on entire communities who contribute to the economic viability of their area.

Nominations will be accepted from MEDC members for communities who demonstrate exceptional contributions in four categories: *Business Retention and Expansion*, *Business Recruitment*, *Community Development*, and *Community Involvement*. All nominees will be grouped according to **population** and evaluated among other similarly-sized communities.

Representatives of the winning communities and the local nominating entities will be recognized at the MEDC Winter Conference Awards Luncheon on Thursday, February 2, 2012, at the Hilton in Jackson, Mississippi. The local economic development organization in the area of the winning nominating organization in each population category will receive \$1,000 in cash for their local program.

Nominations will be accepted until Thursday, October 27, 2011. All forms and instructions are online at [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms) under "CEDA Awards." Any questions about the awards or the nomination process may be directed to Carol Hardwick at [carol@medc.ms](mailto:carol@medc.ms).

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

MEDC's Board of Directors and the CEDA Selection Committee urge you to identify an eligible success story in your community and nominate it for consideration TODAY!

**ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE MEDC OFFICE NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2011.**