

Boys & Girls Clubs of the MS Delta Launches Annual Campaign

GREENWOOD, Miss., The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta recently kicked off its Annual Campaign with a goal of raising \$80,000 to support Club and community programming in Bolivar, Coahoma, Grenada, Leflore, Humphreys, Tallahatchie, Holmes and Yazoo counties. Burns Strider, Annual Campaign Chair, announced today that \$32,000 has already been raised toward the \$80,000 goal. David Dallas, Chief Executive Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta, thanked those donors who have already made their campaign commitment and encouraged other com-

munity members to join the campaign. "We are excited about conducting our first formal Annual Campaign. We are grateful for the support we have received and hope other individuals and businesses in the Delta will join our efforts to help the most important asset we have — our children," said Dallas. From now through July, Strider and a committee of volunteers will contact individuals and businesses in the area served by the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta. "We are confident that, with the campaign leadership in place, our communities will rise to the occasion and successfully reach our cam-

paign goal," stated Dallas. If you would like more information about how you or your business can contribute to this campaign, please call 662-219-0488 or visit www.bgcmsdelta.org. It is the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta to inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. Serving the Delta community since 2002, the organization reaches more than 1,800 youth annually through ten locations in Belzoni, Clarksdale, Cleveland, Greenwood, Grenada, Itta Bena, Jonestown, Lexington, Tutwiler, and Yazoo City. ### Media Contact:



May is Small Business Month

Small businesses are the backbone of Mississippi's economy. In fact, 99 percent of Mississippi businesses are small businesses, providing paychecks for nearly half of our workforce.



I know firsthand the impact of these businesses because our own family business started small — a single department store in Jackson. We invested in our community. We treated our team like family. And as we expanded across the South, we kept that same small-business mindset, continuing to invest in our community, our workforce, and the families who shopped in our stores.

gram helps level that playing field. It gives small and independent businesses the ability to offer a retirement option backed by the State of Mississippi. The same opportunity will be available to gig workers, who may not otherwise have easy access to retirement accounts.

May is Small Business Month across the country, a time to recognize the contributions these businesses make to our economy, our communities, and our families.

Making retirement savings simple is critical. We want to make it easier for people to start early and stay consistent. The numbers tell the story. A single \$1,000 investment can grow to \$16,000 over 18 years, according to the U.S. Treasury. Contribute \$5,000 per year, and you could have more than a quarter-million dollars in less than 20 years. Investing works, and it builds long-term financial security. Our goal at the Treasury is to make that path easier to follow.

As part of Small Business Month, the State Treasury is highlighting the new Mississippi Work and Save program. Signed into law by Governor Tate Reeves earlier this year, the program makes it easier for small businesses to offer their employees a pathway to retirement savings.

Over the next year, the State Treasury will work to build and implement this public-private retirement program, modeled in part on the success we've seen

with Mississippi College and Career Savings (in fact, Mississippi Affordable College Savings helped inspire the Work and Save program in the first place).

This will work hand-in-hand with the new Trump Retirement Accounts, which will also be available to those making less than \$35,500 annually. As the White House reports, the average 401(k) balance increased by more than \$24,000 during his first year back in office. Whether your family takes part in the Work and Save plan, President Trump's plan, your employer-provided plan, or a combination, it's important that every American benefits from a growing economy.

With Mississippi built on small businesses, I am excited to bring this program to life. Both employees and employers should have the tools to achieve financial security, and this program is a meaningful step in that direction.

We will have more information to share as implementation moves forward in the months ahead.

And to every small business owner, employee, and entrepreneur working to make Mississippi stronger — thank you, and happy Small Business Month.

Mississippi Treasurer David McRae is the 55th Treasurer for the State of Mississippi. In this role, he helps manage the state's cash flow, oversees College and Career Savings Mississippi, and has returned more than \$170 million in unclaimed money to Mississippians. For more information, visit Treasury.MS.gov.

"I'M IMPRESSED!"

By Fred Piscop

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