

# Business MATTERS WEEKLY

Week of: *January 9, 2012*

*From the Desk of...*

**Linda Thomson, President**

Welcome!

Each New Year brings with it the opportunity for renewal and growth, as individuals and organizations work toward the betterment of our region. All of us at JARI understand the importance of embracing opportunities as well as continuing our commitment to you and your business. As part of this commitment, I am very excited to launch *Business Matters Weekly*, a newsletter dedicated to providing you with information about the economic development of our region. Learn about business services, financing options, infrastructure development and new businesses. Look for *Business Matters Weekly* each Wednesday in your inbox. Please know that you and your business are vitally important to our region. Your thoughts and suggestions are encouraged as we work together to build a bright future. I now invite you to take a look at our new SBA Microloan Program in today's edition, which is sure to open the door for many local small businesses.



**Microloan Program**

**Contact: Michele Clapper, VP of Economic Development**



visit [www.jari.com](http://www.jari.com)

## In This Issue

[From the Desk of Linda Thomson](#)

[Microloan Program](#)

## Quick Links

[JARI Website](#)

[JARI PTAC Website](#)

[JARI Publications](#)

[JARI Contacts](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

**Contact JARI by emailing**

[info@jari.com](mailto:info@jari.com)

or visit

[www.jari.com](http://www.jari.com)

After an extensive application process to become approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration as a microlender, the funding is now available! JIDC, JARI's sister organization, is now capable of lending up to \$50,000 or one-third of the approved company's total project cost to small businesses in Cambria and Somerset Counties.



A key element of this program allows JIDC to participate in deals where banks' hands are tied. For example, if a company only needs to borrow \$10,000 - \$20,000, Michele Clapper, VP of Economic Development, says it has been difficult to connect those companies with a public source of funds and banks have long needed help to lessen their risk in the process with start-up companies. "Being a microlender allows us to participate in deals where banks just can't do it all."

With an initial sum of \$325,000, JIDC is in a position to assist small businesses who wish to plant their seeds in our area or grow their existing business. In addition, if a company needs technical assistance such as marketing, further financial assistance, or help preparing financial statements, we can provide that as well.

So if that renovation project or dream of becoming your own boss has been tabled due to a lack of capital, now is the time to contact Michele Clapper at 814.535.8675 or [mclapper@jari.com](mailto:mclapper@jari.com) and become that much closer to making your dream a reality!

For more information on JARI, please visit our website at [www.jari.com](http://www.jari.com). Should you have any questions regarding the above article or to inquire on how we can help your business, please email us at [info@jari.com](mailto:info@jari.com).



Like JARI on  
Facebook



Like JARI PTAC on  
Facebook