

# ENTREPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT

## Project Outcomes:

(June 2, 2003 thru June 30, 2006)

- ◆ Total Clients Assisted: **293**
- ◆ Businesses Started: **23**
- ◆ Businesses Expanded: **7**
- ◆ Jobs Created: **78**
- ◆ Businesses Retained: **4**
- ◆ Jobs Retained: **13**
- ◆ Tune-Ups of Existing Businesses: **32**

For more information about Enterprise Facilitation, contact:

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## Enterprise Facilitation Welcomes Clear Choice!

Clear Choice of Northeast Kansas specializes in vinyl replacement windows though doors, siding, and other products are also available. To get their business up and running, owners Michael Bridges and Tina Martin sought help from Enterprise Facilitation. Michael says, "Janet provided excellent guidance as we put together our business plan to obtain start-up funding." Their planning and preparation paid off as they were the first recipients of a Jackson County microloan. Michael and Tina launched the

business in April and got off to a fast start, beating out more than 85 other licensees for the small market of the month title for April. Michael says he was initially interested in the vinyl replacement window business because "construction is what I know." He has previously owned and been employed by a number of contracting businesses. The two complement each other well. Michael handles window sales and installation while Tina takes care of the business side of things. While the business is based in Holton,

Michael and Tina's licensing arrangement with Clear Choice allows them to operate throughout Northeast Kansas. Currently, they advertise from Kansas City to Junction City. As business continues to grow, Michael and Tina plan to offer their products in even more Kansas cities. For more information on Clear Choice, see their website ([www.clearchoiceusa-northeastkansas.com](http://www.clearchoiceusa-northeastkansas.com)) or call 1-888-364-GLASS or locally at 785-364-2274.

## KNZA Home, Garden, & Sports Expo

Enterprise Facilitation took part in the KNZA Home, Garden, & Sports Expo March 31, 2006 through April 2, 2006 at the Sac & Fox Casino. Fifteen client businesses participated in the EF display. They were: Absolute Home Health Care, Campbell Vineyard & Winery, Ceramika, Cindy Meyer Designs, Cranston Recycling, For the Nations, Heavenly Designs, Kickin Bull Ranch/HeartLand Images, Laurie Beth's Bakery & Deli (pictured at right), Lighthouse Hospice/Guesthouse, Parsonage Guesthouse, Prairie Place Designs, Sagebrush Self-Storage, Springbrook Candleworks, and Supreme Landscape & Turf/Seneca Nursery.



## Northeast Kansas Enterprise Facilitation Initiative

Northeast Kansas Enterprise Facilitation is a five-county effort to help people transform their dreams and talents into viable business ventures. Facilitator, Janet Griesel, provides free, confidential business management coaching

to aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, and Nemaha counties. She is assisted by an approximately 50 member community resource board. Resource board members are dedicated

volunteers who help Janet locate resources for individual clients. Board members volunteer their networks, knowledge, business experience, skills, and time to assist area entrepreneurs.