

ENTREPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT

Project Outcomes:

(June 2, 2003 to June 1, 2007)

- ◆ Total Clients Assisted: **369**
- ◆ Businesses Started: **29**
- ◆ Businesses Expanded: **8**
- ◆ Jobs Created: **100**
- ◆ Businesses Retained: **5**
- ◆ Jobs Retained: **27**
- ◆ Tune-Ups of Existing Businesses: **40**

For more information about Enterprise Facilitation, contact:
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Coleman Nursery & Tree Farm Opens with EF Help

Ernie and Debbie Coleman of Hoyt, KS launched their new business, Coleman Nursery & Tree Farm, with an open house on April 21st. The nursery offers bedding plants, vegetable starts, perennials, and 11 varieties of shrubs. In addition, the Coleman's offer a variety of trees. As a KAA certified arborist, Ernie has a passion for trees and looks forward to helping customers make their tree selection. Twelve varieties will be available this year. Tree prices include delivery, planting, and a one year guarantee.

Future plans for the nursery include adding another greenhouse and more

gift items. But, future offerings will depend heavily on what customers' desire.

While new to the nursery business, Ernie is not a newcomer to business ownership or horticulture. He has operated his own tree service, Completely Tree'd for several years. "The nursery and tree farm is a logical addition to what I've already been doing," Ernie said. "It will also allow our children to get involved which we're excited about."

The business is truly a family affair. Both Debbie and Ernie's parents have assisted with everything from putting up the greenhouse to manning the cash register.

When the Coleman's decided to move forward with their plans for the nursery, they contacted Facilitator Janet Griesel. "Janet helped us to put our business plan together so we could obtain a business loan," Debbie said. "She was able to help us sort through the paperwork and figures required."

The nursery is located at 16267 142nd Road, Hoyt, KS. This is 3 1/2 miles east of Highway 75 on 142nd Rd. Regular business hours will be 10 am to 6 pm Tuesday through Saturday or anytime by appointment. For more information, call Debbie or Ernie at 785-966-2127 or 785-408-9581.

Enterprise Facilitation Celebrates Four Years

Northeast Kansas Enterprise Facilitation recently celebrated the completion of its 4th year in operation. Since June of 2003, the initiative has helped people in the five-county area transform their dreams and talents into viable business ventures.

These efforts have resulted in 42 new, expanded, or retained businesses which represent 130 jobs in the area. Hundreds more entrepreneurs

have received other types of assistance from Facilitator, Janet Griesel, and the initiative's 60 member community resource board.



"I have been so impressed with the volunteers who serve on the community resource board," Griesel said. "Their enthusiasm for helping entrepreneurs is extraordinary and has allowed us to accomplish so much more than I could have alone."

The group looks forward to many more years of providing free, confidential coaching to entrepreneurs in the five-county area.

Upcoming Events:

August 2, 2007

6:30 pm - Board Meeting in Doniphan County. Location TBD.