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## SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH COUNCIL

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### Opportunity

People already know that metro Atlanta is a great place for big business, with the fifth-highest concentration of Fortune 500 companies in the nation.

But it's also a great place for small businesses. In fact, *Inc.* magazine lists metro Atlanta as one of the top cities in the nation for entrepreneurs.

That's because small businesses truly are the backbone of our economy. Of the nearly 143,000 businesses in metro Atlanta, nearly 95 percent employ fewer than 50 employees. And two-thirds of new job growth in metro Atlanta is from small business.

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### History of Chamber Leadership

The Chamber is committed to helping small and mid-size businesses thrive.

- We offer networking, educational and developmental programs for small businesses at each stage of their growth.
- In 2002, the Chamber created what is now the Small Business Growth Council, which works to identify and proactively address the needs of small business members.
- For more than 10 years, a small business representative has served on the board of directors of the Metro Atlanta Chamber.
- For more than two decades, the Chamber has raised awareness of the contributions of outstanding entrepreneurs in our region through the annual Small Business Person of the Year Awards.

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### 2010 Call to Action

- Position Chamber as the **leader in small to mid-size business development** and support these members through networking and educational opportunities.
- Engage **400 members in regular lead generation** and referral exchange.
- Attract **10,000 attendees and 2,200 companies** through events and activities specifically created for the wants and needs of small business members.
- Celebrate **24th Annual Small Business Person of the Year Awards**, in partnership with the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*.
- Attract 500 people to **Small Business Day** to showcase **40+ businesses**.

#### Small Business Growth Council CHAIR



**Mary Moore**  
President  
The Cook's Warehouse

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#### CHAMBER STAFF



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