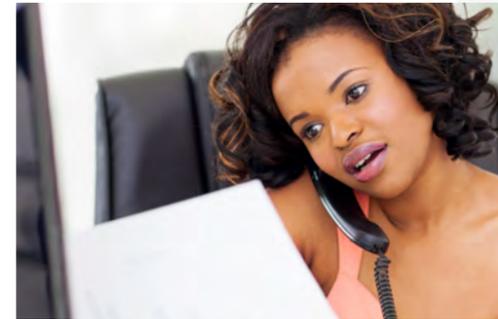




THE **edge** CONNECTION **CHAMPIONS FOR CHANGE**





Creating Jobs... Alleviating Poverty... Changing Lives

Remember the old Chinese proverb, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime?" At The Edge Connection, this is what we do. But we go further. We teach women and men how to price their fish, how to market their fish, how to access capital to buy a new boat, and how to hire their neighbors. We fight poverty at the source, by teaching low-to-moderate-income people the skills to launch, sustain, and grow a business.

This is what we do. Will you help us champion change?

Creating Jobs...

Dennis came to The Edge connection with a part time job, an annual income which placed him at 130% of poverty, and a dream to start his own business. After completing our Plan for Profit business training course, he launched a property restoration business, cleaning up foreclosed properties for resale. He not only created a good job for himself, he now employs 29 additional workers.

Alleviating Poverty...

Lakita, her husband, their new baby, and her 20-year-old disabled son were functionally homeless, temporarily living in the basement of a family member. Lakita, who is also disabled, began a staffing agency that finds that perfect niche job for hard-to-place, disabled workers. She is now supporting her family and they are living in their own residence. She has also secured a job placement for her son.

Changing Lives...

After being downsized twice and unemployed for a year and half, Daymon decided to take his future into his own hands. He loves to grill, so he started selling plates of food to his neighbors and later to businesses. He is now the proud owner of a catering business, supporting his family and creating jobs for others.

Micro Business Development...

Micro business development is a viable, sustainable, poverty-alleviation strategy that benefits the individual and the community as a whole. In the last 15 years, The Edge Connection has served 2,668 clients desiring to launch, sustain or grow a business with 92,387 hours of business training and consultation.

We know through experience that every person, regardless of race, gender, disability, educational level, or circumstance, can achieve financial independence by starting a business when given the proper training and support. Every person has innate strengths and talents, and entrepreneurs who utilize these talents are the most successful in attaining self-reliance and prosperity. We encourage our clients to dream. And then we help them turn their dreams into reality.

Our clients become role models who say, "If I can do it, so can you."

Meet our Keynote Speaker - James M. Bailey



JAMES M. BAILEY

CEO | Atlanta Market of Operation HOPE

James serves as Chief Executive Officer for the Atlanta Market of Operation HOPE (HOPE), a global non-profit, public benefit organization; America's leading provider of economic tools, services, and financial dignity for the underserved. Founded in 1992, HOPE has served over 2,400,000 individuals and has directed over 1.6 Billion dollars to support and uplift low-income communities. Over the past 7 years under James' leadership in the Southeast, HOPE has helped over 65,000 children, adults, and families, understand the language of money, start businesses, purchase homes, and increase their financial dignity.

With more than 15 years experience with Fortune 500 companies, entrepreneurial ventures, and nonprofit organizations, James began his journey with HOPE in May of 2007. Prior to that, by age 27, James served as President and CEO of Landmark Global Corporation, a Georgia Based Real Estate and Private Equity firm managing over 7 million dollars in assets. James' experience also includes sales management posts with Bank of America, Hershey Foods Corporation, and Speakeasy Inc., an executive coaching and development firm managing a client book of Fortune 500 companies and senior level executives.

James, an Atlanta native, is a graduate of the University of Georgia and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He is active in various civic organizations serving on numerous boards including The Wren's Nest, Premier Academy, Safe America Foundation, and the Metro Atlanta Chamber Board of Advisors.

James has committed his life to serving others, volunteering as a mentor for the Priority Male Initiative, Youth Entrepreneurs Atlanta, the Atlanta Public Schools R.E.A.L Men Read Program, and most notably serving as scoutmaster for Troop 100 at the Benjamin S Carson B.E.S.T Academy. Recognized at the White House as a "Champion of Change" for following in the footsteps of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., selected as one of the 10 Most Outstanding Young People of Atlanta, Who's Who in Black Atlanta, and named to Georgia Trend Magazine's 40 Under 40 "Best and Brightest Leaders of the Future", he is a 2011 New Leaders Council Fellow and a member of the Leadership Atlanta Class of 2014.



ANNA CABLIK

CEO | ANATEK & ANASTEEL

Anna R. Cablik, a native of the Republic of Panama, took a job as a clerk with a construction materials company. Seven years later she became the company's vice president. She left to start her first company; ANATEK, INC., a contracting company that specializes in highway bridges. After leading ANATEK, INC. to become one of the largest Hispanic owned firms in Georgia, she started ANASTEEL & Supply Company, LLC, the only Hispanic/female owned reinforcing steel fabricator in the Southeast.

KEN HUFF

Supplier Diversity Manager | Southern Company

Ken Huff is the supplier diversity strategy and reporting manager for Southern Company. He provides strategic direction for small business utilization and supplier development at Southern Company's various subsidiaries. Additionally, he manages the goal-setting, federal small business compliance, and regulatory reporting activities of the company.



BRIAN M. WOOTEN

*Executive Director
KSU Community Engagement*

Brian M. Wooten is the Executive Director of Community Engagement at Kennesaw State University. Prior to serving in this role, he served as the Director of the Center for Student Leadership (CSL) and Assistant Professor for University Studies at Kennesaw State University. During his tenure, the CSL has developed programs that connect leadership development and applied research and scholarship with local, national and international civic engagement initiatives.

CASSIUS BUTTS

*Regional Administrator
Small Business Administration*

Cassius Butts was appointed by President Barack Obama in 2011. He is responsible for delivery of SBA programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. During his appointment, Cassius Butts has managed oversight of two record-breaking years for SBA Lending in Region IV, nearly \$8 billion in SBA-backed loans to small businesses within the aforementioned eight states.





SPONSORS

Pillars of Change



Leaders of Change



Patrons of Change



Advocates of Change



Supporters of Change



Contributors of Change

Charles Jones



Thank You All and See You Again Next Year!