



Welcome to the first edition of *Small Business Matters*, the SBDC's monthly e-newsletter which will inform you of the SBDC's activities, developments in the region's economy, client success stories, and upcoming training and networking events.

Small Business Matters, means just that. The region's economy is tied closely to the Federal Government and DoD spending and there are a whole host of small business owners who work day by day to support the demands of this important customer. Additionally, through Start and Hatch Norfolk and similar programs in communities throughout the region, small, technology-focused startups are finding a home here, and thus contribute to the region's economic diversity.

I hope that you find the information provided in our newsletter both interesting and informative. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any recommendations or stories you feel might be of interest.

Welcome to the world of small business and the Small Business Development Center of Hampton Roads.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Carroll". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Carroll
Executive Director
Small Business Development Center of Hampton Roads, Inc.

Vice President, Small Business
Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce