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Vicksburg Warren Chamber of Commerce announces the Winner of the 2020 Vicksburg Entrepreneur Bootcamp Business Plan Competition

Vicksburg, Mississippi – (December 16th). The Vicksburg Warren Chamber of Commerce recently concluded the 2020 Vicksburg Entrepreneur Bootcamp which taught 15 community entrepreneurs the process of starting and growing a small business. The bootcamp, also featured the opportunity for graduating participants to compete for a \$1,000 grant prize to help them start up their new business or grow the existing small business.

In the end, three participants battled to win the Business Plan Competition on the night of December 8th at the Hinds Community College Campus. For several weeks, all participants had been diligently working to finalize their business plans to pitch it to a five-judge panel consisting for representatives from the banking community. The participants discussed their business sector trends, market feasibility, marketing plans, and planned financial growth to the judges, in order to have a chance to win the \$1,000 "Seed Grant".

In the end, and after careful deliberation by the judges, who took into account both their written business plan and their in person presentation, Kendra Reed, who is kickstarting the "Delta Dirt Shirts" was selected the winner of the Business Plan Competition. "Delta Dirt Shirts" utilizes Mississippi mud to dye t-shirts that are made of cotton, and are designed by local artists. You can find the Delta Dirt Shirts online at <u>deltadirtshirt.com</u> or at The Open Market in Washington Street, in Vicksburg.

The Vicksburg Entrepreneur Bootcamp Business Plan Competition was sponsored by the Vicksburg Chamber of Commerce, the City of Vicksburg, BancorpSouth, Mutual Credit Union, Home Bank, River Hills Bank, Regions, Guaranty Bank, and Trustmark.

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The Vicksburg Warren Economic Development Partnership brings together the Vicksburg Warren County Chamber of Commerce, the Warren County Port Commission, and the Warren County Economic Development Foundation to lead Warren County's and the City of Vicksburg's Economic Development Efforts. Pablo Diaz is the President & CEO of the Vicksburg Warren Economic Development Partnership.