

## Diane McFarland Bio

Diane McFarland is the Training Manager for the Maryland Small Business Development Center (SBDC). To assist small business owners, Diane is responsible for the SBDC statewide training program – which includes, but not limited to, creating content for SBDC training through seminars, webinars and online training. Additionally, Diane is responsible for securing subject matter experts as speakers to present topics that will assist the business community in growing and succeeding in their business ventures. The training events are offered statewide to those currently in business and to those in the planning stage of starting a business. In essence, it is the mission of SBDC staff to provide an array of services, including consulting and training to those in all stages of small business development and enhancement, resulting in successful businesses and greater state and local economic growth.

From a childhood growing up in a family candy business, to real estate office experiences, to retail sales in a formal wear shop, and finally as a former educator and administrator, Diane's SBDC career affords her the opportunity to assist in the success of Maryland's small business entrepreneurs.

*"Growing up in a small business environment together with my passion for teaching, has afforded me invaluable life experiences. Maryland SBDC's dedicated staff, together with the availability of SBDC resources, provide to me opportunities to benefit Maryland small business owners with training experiences which enhance the growth and prosperity of the small business community."*