

Empire State Development News

Press Office

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

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EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT'S ENTREPRENEURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO EXPAND ITS SERVICE THROUGHOUT NYS

Return of the EAP program to Harlem after a three-year absence comes just in time to support fledgling Harlem entrepreneurs in the current economic downturn, and help them get a piece of Harlem's recent development boom

What: Empire State Development and its subsidiary Harlem Community Development Corp. (Harlem CDC), will announce the expansion of the State's Entrepreneurial Assistance Program (EAP) at a breakfast alongside EAP program representatives and local elected officials.

The state's EAP program will increase its service area to five centers located throughout New York State (Erie and Niagara Counties, Onondaga County, Westchester County, and Greater Harlem (East, Central West, Washington Heights and Inwood)).

Who:

Congressman Charles B. Rangel
Assemblyman Keith L.T. Wright
Curtis Archer, President of Harlem CDC
Jeff Metzler, Vice President of ESD's Economic Empowerment Program
Joyce Smith, Director of ESD's Entrepreneurial Assistance Program
Mustaqeem Abdul-Azeez, 125th Street vendor – A small business owner who recieved assistance from Central Harlem EAP provider Project Enterprise.
Gina Covington, Yonkers NY Consultant – After her layoff she founded a life coaching firm through the assistance of Women's Enterprise Development Center, a new EAP center located in White Plains.

When: Thursday, October 23, 2008, 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.

Where: Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building
163 West 125th Street, 2nd Floor

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