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Program Overview

Business Relationships That Advance Diversity

Friday, February 8, 2008

The program will provide a leadership strategy session for companies who wish to examine business practices that can advance diversity not only in their own organization but also in society at large. Speakers will address strategies for hiring partnerships and building supplier relationships – particularly with low income communities and emerging urban entrepreneurs.

Participants can expect to leave with strategies and models for effective partnerships, rationales for such commitments, and an expanded network of businesspeople with similar experiences and goals.

Agenda:

- 7:30 Registration and Breakfast
- 8:00 Opening Table Discussion: Introductions and Interests
- 8:15 Panel Presentations
- 9:00 Table Discussion: Navigating Your Challenges and Opportunities
- 9:30 Facilitated Discussion with Panel
- 10:00 Departure

Speakers:

Building Workforce Development Partnerships

- Sherrie Saint Amant, HR Workforce Development Manager, TJX Companies

Opportunities for Hiring Ex-Offenders

- Andrea Cabral, Sheriff of Suffolk County

Strategies for Supplier Development

- Milton Benjamin, President and CEO, Initiative for a New Economy

One Company's Experience

- Beth Williams, President, Roxbury Technology Corporation

Speakers' biographies on the back

Location and Ticket Information

LOCATION

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
245 Summer Street, Boston
FCAT Auditorium, 14th Floor
Adjacent to South Station

TICKETS

Corporate membership includes tickets
Non-Members: \$30 per ticket
Participants must RSVP by Feb. 8th
Walk-ins will not be permitted
Purchase tickets at www.BostonCCJ.org by
February 5th

Please allow time for building security clearance.

All participants will need to present photo identification in the lobby.

The program will begin promptly at 8:00 am.

Questions? Email Langston Dugger at LDugger@BostonCCJ.org

Speaker Biographies

Sherrie Saint-Amant is an HR Workforce Development Manager at The TJX Companies, Inc. In this capacity, she oversees compliance with the Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit program for TJX's 5 chains - TJ Maxx, Marshalls, HomeGoods, AJ Wright and Bob's Stores. Sherrie's main area of focus is helping store and district managers build effective relationships with local job training / placement programs for the purpose of recruiting hourly associates. She also coordinates the distribution of posters and materials on government benefit programs to 2000 store and distribution center locations nationwide.

Sherrie discovered early on in her career the power of volunteerism when, as a YWCA Youth Director, she managed an all volunteer staff. Since that time, Sherrie has contributed thousands of volunteer hours to community based anti-racism work in Maine, New York City and the Boston area.

Milton Benjamin is the founding president and CEO of the Initiative for a New Economy (INE). In a first for our region, a coalition of corporations, community organizations, and the City of Boston has collaborated to launch a major new initiative designed to expand the opportunity for minority owned businesses in Greater Boston. INE focuses on investing strategically in minority business enterprises to enable them to serve as suppliers to major corporations.

Prior to his position at INE, Milton served for more than a decade as President of the Massachusetts Community Development Finance Corporation (MACDFC), an economic development investment corporation that provides debt and equity financing to small businesses and real estate development projects. MACDFC has been lead lender or asset manager for five additional funds capitalized by public, private and quasi-public investors. Milton serves as Trustee to the Dedham Institution for Savings, board member to MetroLacrosse and is a member of the Executive Committee of Black and White Boston.

Andrea J. Cabral, Esq. is the 30th Sheriff of Suffolk County and the first Black American female sheriff in Massachusetts history. She was appointed in November of 2002 and elected in November of 2004. Prior to being Sheriff, she was an Assistant District Attorney in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office for nearly 10 years. As Chief of District Court Prosecutions for four years, she trained and supervised 48 prosecutors in Suffolk County's eight district courts and the Boston Municipal Court. She also created and was Chief of Suffolk County's first major felony Domestic Violence Unit for 5 ½ years.

From 1991 to 1993, Sheriff Cabral was an Assistant Attorney General in the Trial and Civil Rights Divisions of the Attorney General's Office and an Assistant District Attorney in the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office from 1987 to 1991.

Elizabeth Williams is the president and CEO of Roxbury Technology Corporation, an independently owned, Boston-based remanufactured laser toner cartridge supplier. Beth took ownership of the company in 2003 following the death of her father Archie Williams, who founded the company in 1994. Since taking ownership, Beth has more than doubled the company's revenues from under \$4 million in 2003 to \$12 million in 2006.

Prior to Roxbury Technology, Beth served as Director of Diversity at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Beth has received numerous accolades as president and CEO of Roxbury Technology. In 2004 and 2005 the company was named one of Inc. magazine's "Fastest Growing Inner-City Businesses in America" and from 2005 to 2007 was included on the magazine's "Inner City 100" list. Roxbury Technology has been included on the Boston Business Journal's "Largest Minority/Women Owned Businesses" from 2005 to 2007. In 2007, Roxbury Technology was named the "Emerging Company and of the Year" by Black Enterprise magazine and Beth was personally honored by the Girl Scouts Patriots' Trail Council with their 2007 "Leading Women Award".