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Sec. of State Buescher Praises Mi Casa's Small Business Development Program

July 24, 2009 (DENVER) – Secretary of State Bernie Buescher visited Mi Casa this week and praised the agency for its work helping entrepreneurs launch and grow their small businesses. Secretary Buescher spoke to the current class of entrepreneurs enrolled in Mi Casa's Business Success training program and then visited the Small Business Resource Fair taking place simultaneously in Mi Casa's Community Hall.

About 120 people attended Mi Casa's Lenders Panel and Small Business Resource Fair held Wednesday, July 22, including entrepreneurs, lenders, bankers and business advisors. Both groups of Mi Casa student entrepreneurs – English speaking and Spanish speaking – had the opportunity to network and pitch their business plans to representatives from the Rocky Mountain Microfinance Institute, the Denver Hispanic Chamber, various national and local banks, the Colorado Enterprise Fund, the local chapter of SBA and SCORE, and many others.

In addition to the array of business resources featured at the event, Secretary Buescher introduced Mi Casa entrepreneurs to the Colorado Business Express website (<http://www.colorado.gov/cbe/>), which features comprehensive information for small business start-ups in the state.

“The Secretary of State's office is committed to helping folks who want to start a small business get there as easily and cheaply as possible,” said Secretary Buescher. “In spite of the downturn, there really is a lot of opportunity out there.”

Mi Casa business graduate Karen Megel is seizing on the current entrepreneurial opportunity with her all-natural insect repellent that she mixes, bottles, labels and sells for \$10/bottle. For more information on Karen's business and other small businesses that Mi Casa has helped start, please visit www.MiCasaResourceCenter.org and browse our Business Directory. Speed up the recovery of our local economy by supporting small businesses!

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About Mi Casa Resource Center

The mission of Mi Casa Resource Center is to advance the economic success of Latino families. Mi Casa was founded in 1976 by eight Head Start mothers in Denver. These women understood that education and employment were vital for women to become successful on both a personal and economic level. As a result, Mi Casa was established to create these opportunities for adults and youth to become successful. For more than 30 years, Mi Casa has been committed to pursuing its mission through business, career and youth and family development strategies. www.MiCasaResourceCenter.org