



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
360 Acoma St. Denver, CO 80223
www.MiCasaResourceCenter.org

Media Contact:
Juan Moreno 303-539-5625
Jmoreno@MiCasaResourceCenter.org

**Mi Casa to Host Small Business Resource Fair:
Find Financing for your Small Business!**

March 25, 2010 (DENVER) - As part of its commitment to supporting Denver's small businesses and cultivating new opportunities for economic success through self-employment, Mi Casa Resource Center will host a Small Business & Community Resource Fair on **Wednesday, April 7th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at 360 Acoma St.

The focus of the event will be on helping small-business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs connect with financing options, counseling, and other businesses in order to grow or launch their small business and find new opportunities for expansion. Existing businesses that Mi Casa has assisted will be showcasing their products and services, including new ventures that will be pitching their business plans to lenders for the first time.

The event is FREE and open to the public.

This event will provide participants with information on business loan options in a down economy, as well as the latest government incentives for small businesses and low-cost entrepreneurial training and business counseling services offered by Mi Casa and partner agencies. Advisors from the local branches of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), and Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) will be on hand to counsel participants one-on-one and answer their personal, business-related questions.

This event is a fantastic opportunity to practice that essential business skill – **networking!**

In addition to traditional lending institutions, Mi Casa encourages its small business clients to seek the services of local credit unions. Many entrepreneurs find the personal service, low fees and accessibility of credit offered by local credit unions to be a welcome respite from the formal bank environment.

“We find that for the population we work with, mostly low to moderate income entrepreneurs, credit unions offer a greater degree of flexibility for small businesses – loans and lines of credit are easier and faster to obtain, for example,” says Elena Vasconez, Mi Casa’s Small Business Consultant. “Credit unions and microlenders reach out to the community with free educational opportunities, and they take the time to sit down with clients and explain the process to them. That’s of great value to our clients.”

At the April 7 event, Mi Casa will welcome the following resource providers: Denver Community Credit Union, Community Credit Counseling Service, JP Morgan Chase, US Bank, Denver Hispanic Chamber, The Latina Chamber, as well as lenders specializing in microloans - Accion, Colorado Enterprise Fund and Rocky Mountain Microfinance Institute. Representatives from marketing firms, insurance agencies and legal entities will also be on hand to answer business owners' specific questions.

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About Mi Casa Resource Center

Mi Casa is among the oldest and largest Latino-serving organizations in Colorado. Mi Casa was founded in 1976 by eight Head Start mothers in west Denver who understood that education and employment were essential for women to achieve personal and economic success. Mi Casa was established to create new opportunities for women and their children to succeed. For more than 30 years, Mi Casa has been committed to advancing the economic success of Latino and low-income families through business, career, and youth and family development strategies. For more information visit www.MiCasaResourceCenter.org.



Mi Casa is a Women's Business Center partially funded by the U. S. Small Business Administration. SBA's funding is not an endorsement of any products, opinions or services. SBA funded programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.