

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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The Enterprise Center and the Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center Awarded Contract to Help Minority-Owned Businesses Identify Stimulus Opportunities

Philadelphia, PA -- Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Pennsylvania will receive an estimated [\\$16 billion](#). ARRA funds are being used to finance a wide range of activities in the Commonwealth, including transportation, infrastructure, housing, energy, education and health projects.

[The Enterprise Center](#) and the [Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center](#) have been awarded a contract by the [Minority Business Development Agency](#) of the U.S. Department of Commerce to establish the Pennsylvania MBE ARRA Office of Advocacy and Outreach to provide minority-owned businesses with the information they need to ensure equal access to ARRA contract and grant opportunities.

“Minority-owned businesses have been disproportionately impacted by the economic recession. MBEs must be included in the recovery,” said Della Clark, president of The Enterprise Center. “Our goal is to help minority business enterprises compete for Recovery contracts and grants. The Pennsylvania MBE ARRA Office of Advocacy and Outreach is a one-stop shop for news and information about Pennsylvania’s Recovery projects. We will [identify specific contracting opportunities](#) in targeted sectors, including transportation, energy and broadband, and match those opportunities with certified minority-owned businesses. And where necessary, we will provide financing, bonding and other technical assistance.”

We will also advocate for policies and best practices to promote the inclusion of MBEs in ongoing and planned Recovery projects. Our [Stimulus Watch](#) will monitor compliance with Pennsylvania’s disadvantaged business participation goals, the [White House Office of Management and Budget implementation guidelines](#), and federal [civil rights obligations](#). We will track selected projects to determine whether ARRA funds are being used to further the purposes of the Recovery Act. Those purposes include providing opportunities for disadvantaged business enterprises.

“The Pennsylvania MBE ARRA Office of Advocacy and Outreach will use traditional communications tools and social networks, including Facebook and LinkedIn, to reach out to minority-owned businesses and help them identify Recovery opportunities,” said



The future of business is here.



Minority Business Enterprise Center

Jacqueline Hill, director of the Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center. “We will hold Business-to-Business forums to leverage existing programs to promote the inclusion of small disadvantaged businesses. The forums are designed to build relationships between certified minority-owned businesses, government agencies, prime contractors and potential strategic partners. MBEs who want to participate must complete a [Client Capacity Profile](#).”

For more information, call (215) 895-4094 or visit:
<http://trackingchange.pbworks.com/ARRA-Advocacy-and-Outreach-Office>.

About The Enterprise Center

Founded in 1989, The Enterprise Center provides access to capital, building capacity, business education and economic development opportunities to high-potential minority entrepreneurs. Through our portfolio of business acceleration initiatives, TEC seeks to better position minority enterprises to compete in the local, regional, and global economies.

Website: <http://www.theenterprisecenter.com>

About the Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center

The Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center is the region’s leader in minority business development services. Funded by the Minority Business Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, PAMBEC focuses on offering three vital services to minority businesses: professional consultants, access to capital and contract procurement opportunities. Since 2004, PAMBEC has generated over \$290,000,000 in contracts and capital for MBEs and created hundreds of jobs in the Greater Philadelphia region.

Website: <http://www.pa-mbec.com>

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