



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

Office of the President - Haifa Fakhouri, Ph.D.

ACC partners with Fifth Third Bank for Small Business Expo

Detroit, MI - August 16, 2010 On Thursday, August 19th, ACC and Fifth Third Bank will host its first eBus Small Business Expo at ACC's Youth Recreation and Leadership Center located at 62 W. Seven Mile Road in Detroit. "The purpose of the Expo is to not only educate businesses on various financial resources that are available to them, but to also have open dialogue relative to their issues and concerns that will be addressed by a panel of financial experts," said Loretta Humphrey-Cruz, Fifth Third Bank Community Development Marketing Specialist.

"As a bridge of understanding, we continue on a mission of maximizing the skills, resources and expertise of the communities we serve which is why (for the second year) we are excited about our partnership with Fifth Third Bank and its eBus initiative," commented Dr. Haifa Fakhouri, ACC President and CEO. "Through the strength of partnership we can help more individuals better their lives."

On the business end, a panel of individuals from SBA, CEED, City of Detroit Office of Targeted Business Development, Michigan Small Business and Technical Development Center, along with Optimum Capital Management President Ryan Mack (headquartered in New York) and Edward Deeb, Michigan Food and Beverage Association (MFBA) president and chief executive officer, will address local small business owners. The morning will kick off with "A Taste of ACC" continental breakfast followed by the Expo that will conclude with questions from the business owners and answers from the panel moderated by Anquette Jamison, anchor on Fox 2 News Morning.

Come rain or shine, ACC clients will board the eBus where they will be provided with community resources information (from DTE, to Michigan Department of Human Services, to a list of low-income housing, to how to prevent identity theft), along with receiving information regarding banking and their credit report. After visiting the eBus, residents can visit the Detroit Community Health Connection which will be providing free health screenings. ACC clients will also have the option of participating in two workshops designed to attract those who have little to no banking knowledge or experience ("Banking Basics 101") and those who have entrepreneurship interest ("Taking a Business From Your Basement to the Consumer") but lack the wherewithal to complete the transition.

Businesses interested in attending this free Small Business Expo can RSVP by calling 248-559-1990 no later than August 17th.

Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

ACC is the premier non-profit human service organization providing services to the Middle Eastern

and mainstream communities in Southeast Michigan. Furthermore, ACC provides better opportunities to enable newcomers to adjust to their new environment. As a bridge of understanding, ACC maximizes the skills, resources and expertise of the community to:

Build cooperation and understanding

Raise the level of individuals' well-being

Increase cross-cultural understanding through education

Deliver human services, counseling and opportunities

Gear community members towards achievement

Empower through employment training and placement

Website: <http://www.myacc.org>

Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

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