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### **YWCA Invites Local Entrepreneurs to Micro Business Symposium**

**PITTSBURGH, PA (February 19, 2009):** Local entrepreneurs can jump-start their small business even in a struggling economy. The YWCA Greater Pittsburgh is inviting small business owners, or those interested in starting a business, to the first annual Micro-Enterprise Symposium on Saturday, February 28, where they can attend workshops to help grow or launch their small business.

The Micro-Enterprise Symposium will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Carnegie Mellon University, University Center, 5000 Forbes Avenue. Cost is \$35, which covers workshops and lunch. Online registration is available at [www.microenterprise.eventbrite.com](http://www.microenterprise.eventbrite.com). For more information, persons may contact Alice Williams, at 412-255-6743 or [awilliams@ywcapgh.org](mailto:awilliams@ywcapgh.org).

Carl Knoblock, District Director of Small Business Administration, Pittsburgh District Office, will provide the opening keynote address. Numerous workshops covering technology, marketing, regulations and finance will follow throughout the day. Some workshop titles include "Entrepreneurship in the Current Economy," "The Power of Blogging," "IRS Laws and Regulations for the Microenterprise," and "Raising Venture Capital."

By definition, a micro-enterprise is a business with five or fewer employees, small enough to require initial capital of \$35,000 or less. The YWCA Greater Pittsburgh supports micro-enterprise through the Enterprising Women program, which is a comprehensive training program for low and moderate-income women seeking to develop a micro-enterprise.

In addition to the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh, symposium partners include Students in Free Enterprise/Carnegie Mellon University; Small Business Administration; Soul Pitt; Women's Yellow Pages; Strong Women, Strong Girls; Minority Networking Exchange; and National Organization of Women Business Owners.

The YWCA Greater Pittsburgh is a women's membership movement committed to the elimination of racism and the economic empowerment of women and girls. For more information about the YWCA's programs and services, persons may visit [www.ywcapgh.org](http://www.ywcapgh.org) or call 412-391-5100.

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