



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**COMMUNITY BOARD 9**  
MANHATTAN

Morningside Heights  
Manhattanville  
Hamilton Heights


Hosted By:

Manhattan Community Board 9  
Economic Development/Harlem Piers Committee

# BUSINESS CONFERENCE


## Topic: Empowering Grassroot Entrepreneurs

Learn about the best practices and resources for small businesses.

 Saturday, May 3, 2025

 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Breakfast & lunch will be served.

 **The Forum at Columbia University**  
601 W 125th St,  
New York, NY 10027

 Register now at :

[www.tinyurl.com/EGE2025](http://www.tinyurl.com/EGE2025)



**Junior Martinez**

*Keynote Speaker*

Social Entrepreneur  
RagsTo Riches Saga

### PRESENTATION



**Bernadette Nation**

Executive Director  
NYC Small Business Services  
(SBS)

### PANELISTS



**Corey Ortega**

Government  
Relations Advisor



**Abdi Abajabai**

Founder & Owner  
Oasis Jimma Juice Bar



**Rev. Dr. Charles Butler**

Vice President of Equitable  
Development HCCI



**Captain Cary Rose**

Commanding Officer  
NYPD 30<sup>th</sup> Precinct

### WORKSHOPS:

- Grant application walk through - UMEZ/LMCC
- Financial Literacy - Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement (HCCI)
- Digital payment systems - Trish Lewis and Arlene Benavidez from Ladies of Hope Ministries (LOHM)
- Legal and licensing requirements - NYC Consumer and Worker Protection (CWP)
- An Overview of NYC Small Business Services (SBS)
- Accessing The Resources of Harlem Community Development Corporation- Harlem Community Development Corporation (CDC)
- CB9 Cannabis Taskforce
- Resume workshop - Grace Institute
- Legal issues- NYPD

### RESOURCE TABLES



**MARK LEVINE**  
Manhattan Borough President



West Harlem  
Development  
Corporation  
Solutions through collaborations™



**NYC**  
Small Business  
Services

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER  
**SHAUN ABREU**  
7<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL DISTRICT

**NYC** Consumer and  
Worker Protection



UPPER MANHATTAN EMPOWERMENT CORPORATION  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

LOWER  
MANHATTAN  
CULTURAL  
COUNCIL



NEW YORK  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY  
Harlem Community  
Development  
Corporation



The Greater  
Harlem  
Chamber of  
Commerce  
Established in 1896