



Free workshop on Oct. 25 to help small businesses in the Glades

(Belle Glade, Fla. – Oct. 11, 2010) Help is on the way for small business owners and entrepreneurs looking to launch a business in the Glades.

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the SBDC's Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), based at Palm Beach State College in Boca Raton, are hosting a free workshop Oct. 25 to provide a wealth of information and resources to help businesses thrive.

The "Straight Talk About Small Business" workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Technical Education Center (Room 127-128) on Palm Beach State's Belle Glade campus, 1977 College Drive. Individuals are asked to RSVP by Oct. 18.

The workshop will provide 'straight talk' on business plans, government contracting and subcontracting opportunities, marketing and branding tips, Web sites and search engine optimization, obtaining financing for business, business accounting, and more. It will conclude with an opportunity to network with other small businesses and learn best practices.

"We feel a lot of small business advising that is available today does not acknowledge the true challenges of small business operation in this economy. We're going to address those subjects in a realistic way," said Philip Scruton, certified business analyst for the SBDC.

"We have felt for a long time that the Belle Glade community would benefit from a real world approach to small business counseling. Even though we're housed in Boca Raton, we're very much a countywide resource. We hope the businesses there will stay in contact with us for one-on-one counseling and other seminars."

The SBDC at Palm Beach State is a member of the Florida SBDC network, a statewide service network of 33 centers funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Designated as Florida's principal provider of small business assistance by state statute, the Florida SBDC Network links the state's education system with community outreach to help in the development and education of Florida's entrepreneurs and small business community. The PTAC specifically helps any size business interested in obtaining contracts with the Department of Defense and other state, federal and local government agencies.

To RSVP or for more information, please call (561) 862-4726 or (561) 993-1175 or visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/SBDC.xml.

Serving more than 52,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing the bachelor's degree, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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