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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **PBCC named host institution for Small Business Development Center**

(Boca Raton, Fla. – Feb. 3, 2009) Palm Beach Community College is now the host institution of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for small enterprises in Palm Beach County.

The SBDC at PBCC 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 aid in the development and education of Florida's entrepreneurs and small business community.

The SBDC at PBCC provides counseling at no cost and training in all areas of business management to help small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs grow and prosper. Assistance with finances, marketing, production, organization, and feasibility studies are just some of the services that the SBDC provides to small businesses.

"We are excited and honored to lead the charge for economic recovery in Palm Beach County by hosting the Small Business Development Center," said Jacie Keeley, director of the SBDC at PBCC. "Through partnerships with Corporate and Continuing Education at PBCC and local stakeholder organizations, we will play a vital role by helping small business clients open businesses, create and retain jobs, win contract awards, acquire capital for business formation and expansion, and enjoy higher sales."

The SBDC at PBCC also provides counseling and training assistance to firms preparing to do business with the government through the Procurement Technical Assistance (PTAC) program. The PTAC program is funded through the Department of Defense and

provides procurement specialists who counsel firms on how to acquire local, state and federal contracts.

The SBDC for Palm Beach County was previously hosted by Florida Atlantic University. All PBCC campuses will participate; however, the main office location is on the Boca Raton campus. For more information on the SBDC at PBCC, call (561) 862-4725 or visit [www.pbcc.edu/sbdc.xml](http://www.pbcc.edu/sbdc.xml).

**About Palm Beach Community College:** Serving more than 46,000 students annually, Palm Beach Community 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. Florida's first public community college, PBCC offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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