

vendor development, and construction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will monitor the fairness and equity of municipal contract and bidding award processes as they relate to accessibility for Minority Business Enterprises and address disparities identified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will seek to establish a partnership with local lawyers and law students and associations to achieve the above objective; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will seek from within and outside its membership individuals with the interest, knowledge, and skills that will be needed to implement its economic development strategy and achieve the stated goals.

Adopted: March 19, 2009

Authorized Signature (Secretary)

Authorized Signature (President)

Authorized Signature (Economic Development Committee)



The Greater New Haven Branch NAACP
Economic Development Committee

presents the

**Greater New Haven Branch of the NAACP
Economic Development Strategy**

Resolution

WHEREAS, economic equality is one of the most pressing civil rights challenges for people of color during the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, the Greater New Haven Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has declared economic development as one of its major priorities over the next several years; and

WHEREAS, during 2008, the City of New Haven unveiled an aggressive economic development strategy for the next decade; and

WHEREAS, the number of African-American owned-and-operated businesses have declined in the City of New Haven over the past several decades; and

WHEREAS, small businesses are expected to be the City of New Haven's major source of job creation over the next decade; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Haven economic development strategy will provide many opportunities for the creation of new businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Haven economic development strategy includes inner city areas populated predominately by people of color;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch of the NAACP's primary economic development goal is to foster through partnerships and collaborations with (profit and not-for-profit) organizations, the creation of a minimum of five (5) African-American owned-and-operated businesses in New Haven each with a least five (5) employees (excluding barber shops, beauty salons, nail salons, and funeral homes) by 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that New Haven's West River neighborhood will be the first site to implement the Greater New Haven Branch's economic development strategy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will establish a partnership with the West River Neighborhood Services Corporation that will be defined in a Memorandum of Understanding to achieve its goal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will

monitor economic development activities throughout Greater New Haven to identify further opportunities for business development and participation by people of color; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will launch through word-of-mouth, print media and website, a campaign to ignite an entrepreneurial spirit among people of color in the greater New Haven area intended to communicate the message to potential African-American entrepreneurs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch Economic Development strategy will include a youth entrepreneurial development component to provide African-American youth in the Greater New Haven area exposure and understanding of capitalism and America's free market system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will partner with the Granville Academy of New Haven an after-school program established in 2003 to prepare youth for success in the global marketplace; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will assist in identifying local, state, and national resource to achieve the economic development goal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will promote self help as a major element of its economic development strategy; and encourage African-American's living in the Greater New Haven area to consider the benefits of pooling their financial resources through investment clubs that invest in new businesses and wealth creation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESLOVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch will pursue job training related to its economic development goal through collaboration with existing job training programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the core of the Greater New Haven's economic development strategy will be the promotion of entrepreneurship among people of color to the greatest extent possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater New Haven Branch shall encourage the city administrations in Greater New Haven to pursue an inclusive economic development strategy through contracting bidding,