



**Seattle's Office of Economic Development
Race and Social Justice Initiative**

Seattle City Council

Committee on Economic Resiliency and Regional Relations

September 18, 2012

RSJI Outcome 1: Opportunities for upward mobility for workers in low wage occupations

Workforce development:

- *Pathways to Career Initiative*
 - Partnership with OED, the Seattle College District (SCCD), the Gates & Seattle Foundations, Seattle Jobs Initiative and SkillUp Washington
 - Develop and demonstrate new models of service delivery that double student completion of training pathways that lead to good paying jobs with potential career tracks.
- *Career Bridge Program*: OED working with HSD, Seattle Jobs Initiative, and community partners to develop a career bridge program



Seattle Jobs Initiative 's Welding Class Graduation at South Seattle Community College

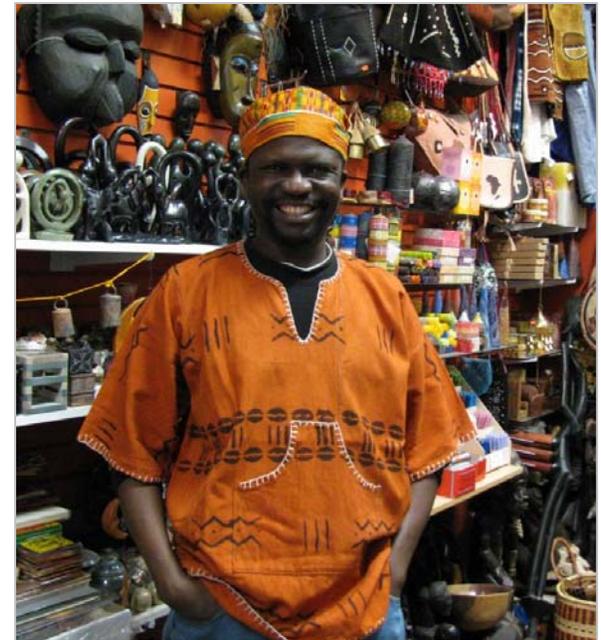
RSJI Outcome 2: Increase access to services and resources for WMBE businesses

Contracting Equity:

- To date, OED spent over 18% of our consultant budget with WMBE firms

Services:

- WMBE outreach included in business services contracts. To date, 21.5% of our business visits have been to WMBE firms.
- *Healthy Foods Here*
 - 40 minority-owned businesses in Seattle and King County have received assistance through *Healthy Foods Here*



Baol African Imports, Columbia City, Only in Seattle Campaign

RSJI Outcome 2: Increase access to services and resources for WMBE businesses

Services (cont):

- Immigrant Business Training
 - Over 175 business have been provided with culturally appropriate technical training (East African and Vietnamese Communities) and 42 new businesses launched.
- Assisted 28 South Park businesses with one-on-one assistance during the bridge closure
- OED services and finance products translated into 5 languages.
- OED organized a mobile foods business workshop in Spanish, which was attended by over 35 entrepreneurs.

RSJI Outcome 3: All boards and commissions reflect the diversity of Seattle's communities

- **New Markets Tax Credits Advisory Committee**
 - NMTC committee designed to include members from low and moderate income communities
 - Seeking to fill four vacancies by first quarter 2013
- **Economic Development Commission**
 - Ensure membership represents diverse business community needs
- **Support for other departments in diverse business outreach**
 - Seattle Fire Code Advisory Committee

City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development

www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment

www.growseattle.com

