



C E N T E R F O R
Multicultural
 Wellness and Prevention
 Facilitating access to services in Central Florida

1814 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando, Florida 32804

407 648-9440

Fax 407 648-8879

For Immediate Release

Contact: Keith Gooden
kgooden@cmwp.org

PRESS RELEASE

The Center for Multicultural Wellness & Prevention Inc., receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to Expand Services
“CMWP hopes to expand services with grant”

ORLANDO, Fla. (December 17, 2009) – After more than six months, the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention Inc. (CMWP) will celebrate the opening of its newly acquired and renovated building located on 641 North Rio Grande Avenue with a “Red Ribbon” cutting ceremony on Friday, December 18, 2009, starting at 12:00 noon. The building, located close to the historic Parramore district, was acquired and renovated through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The CDBG Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Through this program, HUD provides a grant to the City of Orlando to fund a variety of projects, which aid in the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing. CMWP was the recipient of such a grant this year to assist the organization in acquiring and renovating the building located on North Rio Grande. With this grant, CMWP will be able to provide expanded services to the Parramore district and surrounding communities.

Dr. Marie J. Francois, executive director of CMWP, said that “this kind of funding is essential for small not-for-profits such as CMWP, to continue to provide essential and expanded services to the community in hard economic times”. She also said that “with this funding, CMWP will be able to provide a higher level of service in a nicer atmosphere”. CMWP now provide support services to multiple community-based programs for addressing educational and access issues in HIV/AIDS prevention and counseling, peer mentorship, cardiovascular disease, breast cancer early detection, and colorectal cancer awareness and education.

Several elected city officials, such as Commissioner Daisy Lynum (District 5), Lelia Allen; Director, City of Orlando Housing and Community Development; Keith Theriot, Program Manager, Housing and Development and several other community leaders have been invited to attend the “Red Ribbon” cutting ceremony. The City of Orlando has the authority to distribute CDBG funds to non-profit organizations that provide activities and programs that meet the needs and priorities identified in the City’s FY 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development Programs.

The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization with the mission to enhance the quality of life for diverse and ethnic populations through the provision of health promotion services in Central Florida.

CMWP has a well-defined history of providing health education and outreach to Central Florida’s minority population. CMWP is an established non-clinical setting, health education and outreach agency in Orlando, Florida. The organization has successfully partnered with community and social agencies to effectively address the health education needs of Central Florida’s minority communities. For more information about the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention Inc., please call (407)648-9440 or visit our website at www.cmwp.org

#####