

Commissioner Heyman announces the 2012 Mom and Pop Small Business Grants

Small businesses may be eligible to receive up to \$5,000

Small business owners in Miami-Dade's District 4 are invited to apply for Commissioner Sally Heyman's Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program. Applicants may be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 that can be used for purchasing equipment, supplies, inventory, commercial liability insurance, security systems, advertising and marketing and making minor renovations. **Applications will be accepted January 16 through February 17, 2012.**

Business owners interested in applying for the 2012 District 4 Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program must meet the following criteria: existed for at least two years; employs no more than seven employees; currently not in default or non-compliance with any County loan or grant program; is not affiliated with a national chain; does not own more than two businesses; and does not engage in illegal activity at the stated business location.

Applications must be received no later than 12 noon on February 17, 2012 or they will not be accepted. Completed original applications can be mailed or hand delivered to: Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, District 4 Office, 1100 NE 163rd Street, #303, North Miami Beach, FL 33162.

Only one application per business will be accepted. Home-based businesses are welcome to apply, although non-profit agencies are not eligible for funding. Businesses that received funding in the past can apply, but priority will be given to those businesses that have never received funding. Applications can be typed or printed. Illegible, incomplete, or faxed applications will be disqualified.

Guidelines for the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program require that each approved recipient attend a mandatory business training workshop to be scheduled at a later date. Aside from financial support, the Mom and Pop Grant Program provides technical assistance in order to create a better working and business environment, promote economic development opportunities, educate owners about various County-funded programs and projects, form/foster better working relationships among small business owners, and retain and eventually create more jobs, offering the necessary training that small business owners so desperately need to become more efficient and competitive.

To see if your business is located within District 4 or for more information, call 305-787-5999. Applications will be made available at www.miamidade.gov/district04 on January 16.