

# NADAP PREPARES JOB SEEKERS FOR EMPLOYMENT

By Harriet Crosby, [www.napad.org](http://www.napad.org)

NADAP is a non-profit organization founded in 1971 by a group of New York City business and labor leaders concerned about the impact of unemployment and other social issues on the City. These leaders sought to specifically address the employment needs of individuals with barriers to employment. NADAP's founders created a progressive and responsive organization that engaged members of the business community and government to address and solve these issues.

During the past 10 years, under the leadership of President and CEO John Darin, NADAP has experienced tremendous growth with various programs throughout New York City and Westchester County. NADAP annually assists over 40,000 individuals by providing them with employment related services so that they can become productive members of society. "NADAP is well positioned to continue to help more New Yorkers toward productivity and self-sufficiency while meeting business and workforce demands with qualified candidates" said Mr. Darin.

NADAP's Comprehensive Employment Services (CES) was established

over 30 years ago as an employment preparation and placement program to assist individuals with histories of substance abuse in obtaining employment. Since then, NADAP has established long-term relationships with many New York City employers that have provided job opportunities for more than 14,000 individuals. CES has supplied qualified job candidates to more than 1,000 area businesses. The CES program services include customized job preparation, placement, retention and career advancement services to individuals who have overcome the challenges of addiction, homelessness and incarceration. Over 700 individuals yearly are referred from OASAS-licensed treatment programs, and New York State and City legal system agencies throughout the five boroughs.

CES clients have a wide range of work experience and education. These talented individuals come skilled in areas such as human services, food services, finance, security, building maintenance, construction, transportation among others. One job seeker, Robinson Cruz, found a new job and a new approach to life after

working closely with NADAP staff. Mr. Cruz stated "Getting a job was something I wanted so badly, and they supported me every step of the way. They are relentless and treated me with dignity."

CES encourages and welcomes the support of the business community by requesting they list their job opportunities with us. In turn, CES can provide businesses with qualified, pre-screened applicants for their hiring needs. The staff members assess applicants' vocational skills and interests, prepare them for the job search process, and help them find suitable employment. CES personnel support employees' transition to new jobs and follow up to ensure long-term stability in employment. "There are several advantages to employers hiring a CES job applicant" said Autumn Winfield, Director. "They include but are not limited to:

- Eligibility to receive tax deductions
- Free referrals services
- Bonding
- Excellent retention services
- Customer Service training
- Customized job matching

- Access to a pool of highly skilled workers
- Mentoring services."

The retention of its employees is critical for the success of any business. CES works beyond the hiring process to ensure newly employed workers continue to fulfill their employers' needs. Newly placed employees are supported with a range of follow-up services during their transition back into the workforce. Employed customers can participate in workshops that also help them cope with stress, personal management, and home finances.

CES's history of success shows that by adapting the program to meet the business customers' needs, CES can also meet the needs of job seekers. Together with the business community, NADAP is making a difference in the lives of many.

Comprehensive Employment Services is centrally located in Manhattan at 355 Lexington Avenue, and can be contacted Monday-Friday between 8:30 am and 6:00 pm by calling (212) 986-1170 or online at [www.nadap.org](http://www.nadap.org). ■

MCC WMBE

# MCC VISITS THE NY STATE'S WOMEN'S CAUCUS TO PRESS WBE (WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES) ISSUES

By Nancy Ploeger, MCC President

MCC members Colleen Molter, QED National and Lani Doktori, Accurate Printing & Graphics (also MCC Board member and Chair MCC Women's Business Committee) along with MCC's President Ploeger, visited Albany on May 21st to address the Women's Caucus of New York State. The Caucus is comprised of women senators and assemblywomen representing the entire state.

Invited by Manhattan's Senator Liz Krueger, the trio travelled to the Legislative Office Building (LOB) to make a presentation at the May breakfast meeting. Colleen Molter had prepared a powerpoint presentation to give the Caucus an overview of the Government procurement trends in

the state and their actual procurement numbers.

NY State government in 2005 & 2006 spent 3.85% with certified MWBE's. In 2006/2007, the State

spent 6.5%, half of which went to WBE's. Other figures to consider:

- There are 4300 WBE Certified firms in the state
- <1% NYS WBE's are NYS certified

• 10% Certified firms are MBE (Minority Business Enterprises) and WBE

• 55% of WBE's are in the service sector while 22% are focused on con-

struction (remainder unknown)

"With Governor Paterson's stated commitment to minority and women owned business development in NY State government contracting, these next few years should prove to be an

exciting time," says Colleen Molter, who's firm QED National is a NY State Contractor.

Currently there is a disparity study being conducted by the state which will show the current numbers and from which the State can follow up to monitor agency performance & compliance and ensure inclusion of women business enterprises. And, if applicable, new laws can be put in place. The Women's Caucus was asked to pay particular attention to the study and its' inclusion of all state WBE's.

We want to see NY State be #1 in government WBE (and MBE) contracting!