



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

## Senator Co Hosts Yonkers Small Business Resource Forum

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS November 8, 2012

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Senator Stewart-Cousins, Assemblymember Shelley Mayer, Mayor Mike Spano, along with co-sponsors Empire State Development, Women's Enterprise Development Center, New York State Department of Labor, the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce, the Yonkers City Council President's Office, the Yonkers City Council and other co-sponsors hosted a small business resource forum for small business owners and those interested in learning more about starting a small business in Yonkers.

The forum provided Yonkers small business owners and prospective business owners with information about the many state, city, and non-profit resources available to them. With key staff from New York State's Empire State Development, as well as from the Westchester Women's Enterprise Development Center Inc., the City of Yonkers and the New York State Labor Department, participants learned detailed information about loan and grant programs, compliance issues, and the state's one-stop website for businesses. In addition, two certified minority and women business owners discussed the opportunities and challenges of owning a small business and obtaining state certification.

"Small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy, accounting for more than 50% of all jobs in New York State. Whether you're a minority or woman owned business, a startup or an entrepreneur, there are state resources available that can help you succeed and impact your bottom line. This forum offered small businesses in Yonkers an opportunity to learn how to take advantage of these programs and services," said Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins.