

City of Newburgh

Press Release

(845) 569-7354 phone— (845) 569-7370 fax

For immediate release

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City of Newburgh Kicks Off Strong Neighborhoods/Strong Families
Initiative with Pastoral and Community Leadership Breakfast
Saturday, December 13 at the Ritz Theater

On Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008 at 8 a.m., the City of Newburgh Department of Human Services will launch its Strong Neighborhoods/Strong Families Initiative with a Pastoral and Community Leadership Breakfast at the Ritz Theater at Safe Harbors on the Hudson, 111 Broadway.

Guest speakers are amongst the leading faith-based community revitalization specialists in the Northeast. They include Rev. Edwin C. Reed, CEO of The Greater Allen Development Corporation of Jamaica, New York founded by Rev. Dr. Floyd H. Flake; and Rev. Joe A. Carter and Francis J. Dixon of New Hope Baptist Church, Newark New Jersey. This will be an opportunity to discuss neighborhood revitalization and community mobilization and community collaboration in the City of Newburgh.

In addition to local clergy and other community leaders, Congressman Maurice Hinchey and State Senator William J. Larkin, Jr., Newburgh Mayor Valentine; City Manager Jean-Ann McGrane; and City Council Members Regina M. Angelo, Marge Bell, Christina M. Bello and Mary Ann Leo-Dickinson have been invited to attend the complementary breakfast.

The goal of the Strong Neighborhoods/Strong Families Initiative is to pull together more than 100 local faith and organizational leaders toward the common goals of neighborhood improvement and family strengthening, especially focusing on the needs of youth.

“This is an important consolidation effort to bring together the City of Newburgh and our faith leaders. Together we can set goals to approach the mission of neighborhood revitalization in the areas of economic development, housing, crime reduction, education and general quality of life,” said City Manager Jean-Ann McGrane.

“Our Strong Neighborhoods/Strong Families Initiative is an important effort to insure the progress of all our citizens as we celebrate the renewed progress of our City of Newburgh,” said Mayor Nicholas Valentine.

Strong Neighborhoods/Strong Families is spearheaded by the City of Newburgh's Department of Human Services. Rev. Dr. Coleman Briggs, pastor of Newburgh's New Hope Baptist Church has lent his able counsel to this endeavor. Corporate support for this event includes Finkelstein and Partners, Affinity Health Plan, TGI Fridays, and TD Bank North.

For more information, contact Yanyiah Pearson (845) 565-1213, x1 or Arlette Murrain at (845) 401-2660.