The Black Economic Development Task Force, Inc.

President's Letter

San Diego Chapter June 1991

Hello,

Over the last four years the Black Economic Development Task Force, Inc., has worked diligently to advance the cause of economic development for African Americans in San Diego County. This is our first newsletter to share with you some of our trials and triumphs. We want to communicate to you what is happening in the economic community and keep you informed about the daily activities the Task Force is involved in. Since we are an entirely volunteer organization, I hope you can appreciate our dedication to these efforts. Our accomplishements so far include the following:

• **Minority Business at the Airport** - The Task Force, along with the Urban League, Catfish Club, NAACP, the Black American Political Action Committee (BAPAC) and Black Federation, initiated and spearheaded the successful yearlong campaign to get minority businesses at the Airport and to prevent Host International from receiving automatic extension of their exclusive contract. These Black organizations joined with the Asain, Hispanic, Native American and women communities and formed a coalition that wrote a proposal with 21 recommendations that were adopted by the Port Commission. The FAA has specific requirements for disadvantaged business enterprise participation for concession services. The significance of this effort will be the first time ever that minority businesses will be able to do business at the Airport.

• **Super Bowl Supported** - We tackled the issue of the Super Bowl coming to San Diego.The Task Force, along with the Catfish Club and Urban League led the fight to convince the Super Bowl Task Force and the Chamber of Commerce to participate in an economic program that will put minority businesses in place to benefit from the Super Bowl and other special events. We need to acknowledge that even though we didn't get the Super Bowl, this was still worthwhile.

• **Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company (MESBIC)** - We are spearheading the drive to form a venture capital firm that will provide at least $8 million of capital to minority owned buinesses. $2 million would come from private sources and $6 million from the Small Business Administration. This enterprise will be a conduit for the educational and economic revitalization of Southeast San Diego by putting money into new and existing businesses.

• **Communities United For Economic Justice** - We helped to form a coalition consisting of the African American, Asian, Hispanic and Native American communities to address common economic issues.

• **City Water Program** - The Task Force met with the staffs of the City Council members to sensitize them to the need for minority business enterprise participation in the County's $3 billion building and purchasing program that will run over the next 10 years. Prior to our involvement, the city water authority did not have an af-

firmative action program. This is the largest public works program ever by the city to implement the minority and women business enterprise programs.

•**Economic Summits** - We have sponsored three very successful economic Summits which bring black business enterprises together with corporate and governmental representatives. The last two had several workshops, seminars and a vendor fair.

These are some examples of the work and activities we are doing daily. However, our most important function is to exist as an organization that will provide a strong voice to speak out for economic progress for African Americans and other people of color. Take a look inside to read more on what the Task Force is accomplishing through its growing membership.

Sincerely,

Harold K Brown

1991 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For 1991, the Task Force will concentrate on creating a voice of influence on economic matters that are affecting the black population and other minorities.

Jan-Mar Supported the 1993 Super Bowl coming to San Diego. Arranged meetings through Southeast San Diego to establish a Round Table of Black Leaders to address the issue of a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Outcome of the meeting was a majority agreement of some dozen leaders who acknowledged that the most fitting tribute to Dr. King's memory is educational and economic empowerment and not symbols.

Feb 24 Article entitled "Task Force Nurtures Black-owned Firm" appeared in the San Diego Union highlighting the efforts of the Task Force and several minority owned businesses. Featured were the owners of Cynthia's Gifts and Blooming Beauties and the owner of failed ICR Tracking Sciences and his start-up company, Compliance Management.

Mar 11 General membership meeting of the Task Force. Guest speaker was Mr. Bob Payne, owner of the Doubletree Hotel, President of Mission Valley Associates, co-owner of the San Diego Padres Baseball Team and Chairman, San Diego Super Bowl Task Force. He addressed a capacity crowd about the complexities surrounding soliciting the NFL to select San Diego for the 1993 Super Bowl.

Mar 18 Convened a press conference of a Round Table of Black Leaders to put the controversy regarding a suitable tribute for Dr. King and acceptance of Linear Park as a compromise tribute to bed. Some 14 Black leaders were represented including the Greater Southeast Town Council, NAACP, Metropolitan Fellowship Foundation, North Island Black Association, the Black Federation, Urban League, and the Rainbow Coalition among others. Media representatives from TV stations KFMB 8, KGTV 10, KUSI 51, and KTTY 69, the San Diego Union, San Diego Tribune, the San Diego Monitor News, and San Diego Voice and Viewpoint newspapers were present. In addition, representatives from Councilman Pratt's and the Mayor's offices were present. The press conference also endorsed the 1993 Super Bowl coming to San Diego.

Mar 18, 19 Participated in the planning and formation of the Communities United For Economic Justice sponsored by the Asian Business Association.

Mar 2 Spoke at the Anti-Defamation League on economic development.

Mar 27 Task Force Board of Directors met with the Editorial Board of the San Diego Union and San Diego Tribune to sensitize them to the historical perspective that has resulted in the economic, social, political, and educational needs of African Americans. We explained that full participation in the economic arena will ameliorate the negative consequences of being Black in America.

Mar 30 Editorial appeared in the San Diego Tribune highlighting the efforts of the Task Force to raise seed money for its Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company (MESBIC).

Apr 3 Met with Susan Golding's Black Advisory Board.

Apr 6 Met with the Black Employees Associations.

Apr 6 Attended Recycling Black Dollars meeting.

Apr 9 Met with Communities United For Economic Justice hosted by the Hispanic Community.

Apr 13 Participated in community outreach effort by Thermo-Electron, held at the Greater Israelite Center and hosted by David Lloyd and Al Kercheval.

Apr 14 Spoke to business owners and the congregation at Bayview Baptist Church about Black economic development which kicked off Bayview's Business Development Ministry.

Apr 16 Responded against Herb Cawthorne's Perspective "Cancer in City Hall" editorial.

Apr 20 Assisted in the formation and creation of the Greater Southeast San Diego Town Council.

Jan-May Participated in the Mayor's Black Advisory Board.

May 13 General Membership meeting of the Task Force. 4th District Councilman Wes Pratt and candidate Rev. George Stevens presented their plans and accomplishments for economic development in Southeast San Diego to an overflowing capacity crowd.

May 17 Attended Reapportionment Forum held by the Chief of Staff of Assemblyman Peter R. Chacon.

May 28 Met with the Communities United For Economic Justice hosted by the Black Economic Development Task Force.

1991 OFFICERS

President	Harold K. Brown
First Vice President	JoAnne Cornwell-Giles
Second Vice President	Joe Outlaw
Treasurer	Lloyd Griffin
Secretary	Lorri Ann Taylor-Daigle

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership	Delores McNeely
Government Relations	Rosalind Winstead
Media/Public Relations/Research	Shirley Spivey-Scott
By-laws	Regina Dillard
Church Liaison	Loreeta Earl
Community Organizations Liaison	Doug Gray
Corporate Liaison	Percy Myers
College/University Liaison	Larry Porter
Fundraising	Harold K. Brown

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Membership meetings are now held **quarterly**. General membership meetings are held on the second Monday in March, May, August and November. The Board of Directors' meetings are held quarterly on the second Monday of January, April, July and October. Committee meetings are held monthly on the first Monday by the committee chair. Meetings are held at the college of Retailing, 652 Gateway Drive (next to the Price Club).

The Board proposed and the membership adopted a resolution to create two types of memberships: Active (voting) and Sustaining (non-voting). The classes of membership now include the following:

Sustaining Corporate (non-voting)	annual fee:	$500
Sustaining Organization (non-voting)		$100
Sustaining Individual (non-voting)		$ 50
Active (voting)		$ 25

CLUSTER GROUP MEETINGS

The first showing of Tony Brown's videotape "The Only Color of Money is Green" was held at Harold Brown's residence in May. The showing generated a great deal of enthusiasm, comraderie, and purpose. The videotape is provocative and inspiring. Guests joining the Task Force Board included Sidney Stewart, Joyce Gellarosa, Dr. Charles Morrow, Art and Colette Duncan, Chief Bill Brown, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Porter, Pat Johnson, Bob and Cherise Council, and Janice Brown. We plan to rotate the showing among Board members with the next showing to be hosted by Joe Outlaw sometime in July.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SAN DIEGO'S

4TH ANNUAL BLACK ECONOMIC SUMMIT

"SALUTE TO BLACK BUSINESSES"

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

WHERE: SCOTTISH RITE CENTER (MISSION VALLEY)

TIME: 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

DONATION: $20 (INDIVIDUAL) $50 (VENDOR BOOTH)

COME AND PRESENT YOUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES TO THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, OR JOIN IN THE SALUTE TO BLACK BUSINESSES.

- *EXCITING, INFORMATIVE, AND WEALTH-BUILDING WORKSHOPS*
- *KEYNOTE SPEAKER (TO BE ANNOUNCED)*
- *LOTS OF NETWORKING*
- *VENDOR EXHIBITS OPEN ALL DAY*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We are asking for your help. Will you help us keep the fight alive by becoming a member? Simply complete the enclosed form and mail it today along with your membership dues.

NAME_____ HOME. ADD._____

HOME.CITY_____ HOME.PHONE_____

EMPLOYER_____ DAY.PHONE_____

TODAY'S DATE _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

___ ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL $25

___ SUSTAINING INDIVIDUAL $50

___ SUSTAINING ORGANIZATION $100

___ SUSTAINING CORPORATE $500

PLEASE mail your application and check to Black Economic Development Task Force, Inc.
P.O. Box 12441
San Diego, CA 92112-2441

Make check payable to BEDTF

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