

PITTSBURGH FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD
HISPANIC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Pittsburgh Federal Executive Board Hispanic Employment Program Committee (HEPC) consisting of representatives from various Federal Government agencies in the Pittsburgh area has a mission of assisting individuals of Hispanic descent from the area in obtaining employment.

The HEPC proposes to provide existing and prospective Hispanic business owners information about programs offered by the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) and area Federal agencies that acquire goods and services through contracts with commercial businesses. Some examples of available programs and opportunities:

- **SBA** - 8(a) program for qualified Hispanic firms to obtain federal government contracts; SBA Small Business loan program.
- **SCORE** - Free assistance in developing business plans and business advice from retired corporate executives.
- **Federal Agencies** - Federal Agencies spend millions of dollars each year acquiring goods and services ranging from construction services, cleaning services to supply items.

The HEPC also proposes to establish a self sustained Hispanic Contractor Association that will provide members with networking opportunities, internships and apprenticeships from established Hispanic businesses and a unified voice in seeking opportunities from Federal, state and local governments as well as corporations.

The HEPC will sponsor a seminar tentatively being scheduled for late January 2004 for attendees to learn more.

For information, contact Yvonne Dowe, SBA, at (412) 395-6560 or Mike DeStefano, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (412) 395-7466.

