

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ***CEDAM's Capital Day:*** ***Nonprofits from across Michigan to Meet with Legislators to*** ***Discuss Key Issues***

Lansing, MI - The Community Economic Development Association (CEDAM) is pleased to announce its 1<sup>st</sup> annual **Capital Day** event on **March 11, 2009 at the State Capitol Speaker's Library (Room 252), 9 am- 3 pm.** Approximately 50 nonprofit organizations and individuals (members of CEDAM and the Statewide Asset Building Coalition- a project of CEDAM's) from all across Michigan will be meeting with their state legislators to discuss key issues. Attendees of Capital Day will also have an opportunity to learn how the legislative process works.

“This is a fantastic opportunity to connect Michigan’s legislators with the community development organizations, who are serving their constituents everyday, and to foster an understanding of the issues that are important to them. It’s especially important now, given the current economic climate, to ensure that everyone has access to quality, affordable housing in safe and vibrant communities,” says Angie Gaabo, Executive Director of CEDAM. **The issues being discussed with legislators are: Support Michigan's Housing and Community Development Fund, Implement Foreclosure Prevention & Intervention Legislation, Reject a Freeze on State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and Promote Refund Anticipation Loan (RAL) Disclosure Legislation.**

The event will also feature leaders in community economic development speaking on the most pressing, current issues. Confirmed speakers include former State Representative Steve Tobocman (D- Detroit), State Representative Rashida Tlaib (D- Detroit), Sharon Parks from the Michigan League for Human Services, and Lorry Brown from the Michigan Poverty Law Program.

The Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM), a nonprofit organization, represents over 370 organizations and individuals committed to rebuilding our neighborhoods and revitalizing communities throughout Michigan. CEDAM is a voluntary association of primarily nonprofit community development corporations (CDCs), community action agencies, and other nonprofits that provide affordable and supportive housing to our most vulnerable citizens, encourage downtown and commercial corridor revitalization, provide workforce and entrepreneurship training, and help families develop and maintain assets to better lives.