

## "LENDING a hand to small business"

Help us help you:  
Let us know what we  
can do to better  
serve the small  
business community  
and local financial  
lending institutions.  
Email your  
suggestions to  
ihill@bmtcoc.org.

### Top 10 NAICS Codes for SBA 504 Lending:

1. Hotels/Motels
2. Physicians
3. Full Service Restaurants
4. Dentists
5. Child Care Services
6. Fast Food/Carry Out
7. Veterinarians
8. Lawyers
9. Grocery Stores
10. Gas Stations/C-Stores

### Fee Eliminations Continue

Fee eliminations initially authorized to expire in February of 2010 have again been extended through much of April, 2010. If you currently have working loans, it is critical to submit them to SBA prior to the deadline. Your borrower will thank you.



# Monthly Update

## Will Health Care "Reform" Small Businesses?

On March 23rd, President Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, known as the Health Care Reform bill. Small businesses are still unclear as to how this will affect their operations. No matter which stance you take, it is hard to argue that there are not both positives and negatives to health care reform.

"For small businesses, it promises to improve access to group coverage and limit the significant rate fluctuations caused by pre-existing medical conditions and group demographics. And through the proposed insurance exchange concept, it promises to create an effective vehicle for individuals to obtain coverage outside of a group plan although it is not expected to be up and running until 2014. This could be a significant advantage for small businesses that today, have a difficult time com

peting for talent against their larger competitors that offer rich employee benefit plans." - Carl Kleimann, Odyssey One Source, Inc.

While this all sounds like a step in the right direction for small businesses, the problems arise when discussions turn to how the reform will be financed. \$938 billion over the next 10yrs seems like an insurmountable task. Where will this money come from?

Employers of more than 50 workers will be fined if they do not provide "affordable" health care to their employees. Beginning in 2014, businesses will be fined \$2,000 per employee if the individual obtains government subsidized health care on their own. Additional difficulties are foreseen for businesses that employ low wage or part time workers because the first 30 employees are not included

in the penalty calculation and are instead calculated on an hourly basis.

For small businesses that currently do not offer health care, this could result in a significant increase in the cost of doing business. Alternatively, could the reform allow businesses to compete with larger employers for top talent thus increasing their economic impact and in turn decrease their cost of doing business?

Each of these perspectives and the explanations of our law makers will not be able to predict the outcome of health care reform. In the words of President Abraham Lincoln, "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew." and act anew.

## What's Happening at SB Alliance

We would like to welcome Burger King back to Nederland, Texas. Owners Jack George and Don O'Brien are excited to have this project underway and SB Alliance Capital is proud to be a part of this exciting



This year SB Alliance Capital will invite our current 504 borrowers to participate with us in the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce's Lobsterfest Golf Tournament. Each year hundreds of golfers and spectators participate in this event and we are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to our borrowers. Come check them out on Hole #1 at Beaumont Country Club on April 26th.

Jessica Hill, Business Development Manager,

completed Session 1 of the University of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute in Indianapolis, Indiana. While there, she was able to network with fellow economic developers from across the United States, and returned full of new ideas, information, and friends she can call on for assistance. OU/EDI is a 3 session training program that prepares economic development practitioners for the Certified Economic Developer exam.