



# *2nd Annual Neighborhood Leaders Award Reception*

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Cocktail Reception and Awards Presentation  
After-party and dancing featuring  
Valarie Adams and the Dimensions

Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel  
1000 Spring St, Elizabeth, NJ, 07201



## 2ND ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS AWARD RECEPTION



### MISSION

The mission of the Elizabeth Development Company is to promote the economic, civic and social welfare of the people of Elizabeth; and to improve the economic well being of the City of Elizabeth by providing a comprehensive program of economic development.

## NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS HONOREES

**Jeff Fowlkes**  
**Embassy Suites Elizabeth-Newark Airport**

**Darlene Robinson and William Best**  
**PNC Bank**  
VP & Development Advisor, Community Development  
Banking-NET - PNC Bank and  
Senior Vice President and Market Manager, Community  
Development Banking, PNC Bank

**Ron and Allen Jacobson**  
**Jacobson Distributing Company**

**John Difabio**  
**Cranford Heating and Plumbing**

**Davison Wayne Developers**

**Wakefern Food Corporation**

**ELIZABETH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY**  
**NEIGHBORHOOD ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**Carlos N. Sanchez**

## THE ELIZABETH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY: A BEACON OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

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Founded in 1977, the Elizabeth Development Company (EDC) has led the City of Elizabeth's economic development programs that have resulted in a tremendously successful revitalization of the city.

EDC is responsible for the thriving transformation of the city and utilizing innovative strategies that include; facilitating physical improvements, coordinating development projects, providing superior investor relations services, and building community relationships that address the city's social and economic needs.

The result is a visibly vibrant community and a significantly improved quality of life for businesses and families in the City of Elizabeth.

EDC has focused much of its efforts on the City's Elizabethport (EPort) neighborhood, the oldest and most diverse region of the city and during the last decade, EDC has actively worked with neighborhood residents, public agencies and non-profit partners to develop and implement a community-driven neighborhood revitalization plan. Together, EDC has achieved tremendous success in the Elizabethport area.

Today, EDC is nearing the final stages of active development work in the Elizabethport area – a testament to the great progress it has achieved. However, there is still much to be done.

Now, EDC's role is to convene and coordinate the growth and prosperity of the community and to continue to focus on working with local community based organizations that deliver critical services to residents and small-business owners.

EDC is continuing to focus on the revitalization of the Historic Midtown Elizabeth Neighborhood. This neighborhood has historically been defined as a targeted revitalization area with active and engaged neighborhood stakeholders focused on community development.



## Thank you to our Sponsors



**Workforce Investment Board**



**Thank you to our Sponsors**

## **THE ELIZABETH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY: A BEACON OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION**

In mid 2013, Elizabeth Development Company (EDC) introduced its On-The-Job-Training program, which was very successful in its first few months of operation. EDC secured employment agreements with local companies who committed a total of two hundred and ninety-two jobs for the program!

Those who invested in EDC, and in its revitalization projects, have a lot to be proud of as we continue to deliver on our promise of creating stronger communities for our residents. This year we will honor several of those who embody the theme of Neighborhood Leadership.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Business Administrator  
City of Elizabeth

## AGENDA

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### *Cocktail Reception*

**6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

Appetizers and Special EDC Martini

One Hour Open Bar

### *Awards Ceremony*

**7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

Special EDC video presentation

"Sustainable Jobs = Positive Communities"

Awards Presentation

Dinner with Wine

### *After Party*

**8:30 pm - 10:30 pm**

Dancing featuring

Valarie Adams & the Dimensions

Dessert Bar

## SBM & CAPITAL

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## Thank you to our Sponsors



**Elberon  
Development Co.**



**Thank you to our Sponsors**



I want to welcome everyone to Elizabeth Development Company's 2nd Annual Neighborhood Leaders Award Reception. I want to recognize the importance of the On-The-Job-Training (OJT) program that is being featured this year.

The OJT program has created jobs for over 70 local residents in less than a year, by matching local resident's skills with job opportunities at places like Wakefern and Embassy Suites.

We are creating career opportunities for these individuals. We are also providing financial subsidies to the companies that do the hiring to help off-set the cost associated with training new employees. It is a win-win for all involved.

I am proud of the efforts of EDC in this initiative, along with Union County, the DCA's NRTC Program and the City of Elizabeth through our CDBG Program.

Wishing you all continued success as we put Elizabeth and Union County residents to Work.

Best wishes,  
Honorable J. Christian Bollwage  
Mayor, City of Elizabeth





## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Elizabeth Development Company has made noteworthy strides over the years and many of these achievements can be seen through our great city.

Those who have joined with us have made our residents, businesses and government proud.

Our strength is in our partnerships and even during some of the worse economic

conditions many of us have faced, we were able to continue building and revitalizing our community through our highly successful On-The-Job-Training program.

This year's celebration, our 2nd Annual Neighborhood Leaders Awards Reception, is our way of recognizing loyal partners who have joined our efforts in helping unemployed Union County residents gain sustainable jobs.

Although tonight's venue is filled with many of our partners and collaborators, we want the awardees to serve as inspiration to others. We have set the bar very high and were able to accomplish so much with their support.

In the coming years, sustainability will remain our goal and it is our hope that you may continue to partner with the Elizabeth Development Company and its projects as they present themselves in the future.

Enjoy this very special evening.

Sincerely,

Mr. Newton J. Burkett, Jr

Chairman



701 MARSHALL STREET, ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY 07201  
T: 908.353.2727 • F: 908.353.0730

"We support the Elizabeth Development Company's effort to help unemployed residents find sustainable jobs. We thank you."



**Ed Palmieri, Jr., MBA**

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**SUN CORPORATION**

In honor of the  
Elizabeth Development Company  
congratulations on a prosperous and  
successful year helping residents find jobs.  
We applaud the good work that you do.

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**LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Tonight's event is our way of taking time to pause for a moment and recognize some of our most significant partners as well as bringing together some of our new friends and supporters.

Over the years we've undertaken some big development and revitalization projects.

Today, EDC has engaged in a project that is a natural link to all of the development and revitalization projects we have undertaken in the past.

However, there is still much to be done.

EDC's role is to convene and coordinate the growth and prosperity of the Elizabeth community has now had an impact on our greater Union County community. We are proud of our accomplishments and working with these employers have been truly wonderful in fulfilling our promise of delivering critical services to residents and small-business owners.

I would like to thank our funders in this project who believed in our work and making this a successful program. Special thanks to the Union County Freeholder's Workforce Investment Board, City of Elizabeth Community Development Block Grant and Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit through NJ Department of Community Affairs.

EDC intends to assist with the demands placed on us to provide critical services to the community.

Enjoy this evening and thank you for your most loyal support.

Sincerely,

William O'Dea

Executive Director

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
ELIZABETH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY  
NEIGHBORHOOD ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREE**



**CARLOS N. SANCHEZ**

Having served the Elizabeth, NJ community for over 11 years, Carlos Sanchez is a true role model to many families and colleagues. Currently, Sanchez is the Deputy City Administrator for Economic Development for the City of Plainfield and was formerly the Director of Financial Programs and Projects at the Elizabeth Development Company (EDC).

Living the American Dream, in 1977, the Sanchez family moved to the United States from Colombia, South America. Carlos began working at the age of 12 in different part-time jobs in Elizabeth while playing soccer and attending school. In 1984, he graduated Elizabeth High School and attended Tusculum College in Greenville, TN on a soccer and academic scholarship. In 1988, he graduated Tusculum College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Management. After graduation, he returned to Elizabeth to begin his career in the finance and banking industry concentrating on lending and economic development.

Currently Sanchez is responsible for the overall revitalization and redevelopment of the City of Plainfield, including the design, administration and implementation of development projects, along with funding, financing, and lending to ensure the success of various projects. He works closely with developers, and the Planning and Zoning Boards to administer policies and procedures that support the City's development efforts. In addition, he is responsible for the Plainfield's community development and community relations programs. Overall, Sanchez's supervision and efforts have a direct impact on the City's quality of life for its residents and business community.

While at the Elizabeth Development Company, Sanchez administered and coordinated their financial and New Markets Tax Credit programs, and raised capital from private sources. In addition, Carlos was the manager for several of EDC's projects and the liaison for all of EDC's departments including accounting, human resources and project development.

Mr. Sanchez is Chairman of the Edison Housing Authority and serves as a member of several boards including PROCEED, Inc., Union County College, NJ Small Business Development Center, YMCA of Elizabeth, the Regional Business Assistance Corporation, the Edison Redevelopment Agency, and the Linden Cafeteros Lions Club.

Mr. Sanchez has been happily married to his high school sweetheart, Nazly Sanchez, for over 23 years. They have two children, Nicholes and Carly Nicole Sanchez. The family attends Calvary Assembly of God Church in Union where Mr. Sanchez is a leader for the Royal Rangers Youth Program.



The **Elizabeth Avenue Partnership**

would like to Congratulate the

**EDC and winners of the**

**Neighborhood Leader Awards**

For their outstanding contributions

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
ELIZABETH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY  
AND TO ITS STAFF FOR  
PROVIDING THIS OUTSTANDING PROGRAM.**