



Office of Economic Development

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IDA of Danville to Award Low Interest Loans

~ USDA Grant Sparks Business Plan Competition ~

The Industrial Development Authority of Danville (IDA) announced today that they are sponsoring a business plan competition in order to disperse funds allotted to them by a grant from the USDA- Rural Development for a Revolving Loan Fund program.

From this competition, the IDA will award low interest loans of no more than \$25,000 maximum to a selected number of entrepreneurs and/or interested growing businesses who submit a feasible business plan, provide a detailed budget, personal and business financial information, and provide biographies of their work experience. The loan is for a two year period at 4% interest. The number and amount of loans will be determined on the amount and quality of the competition. To be eligible, the company must create at least two full time jobs and have no more than 50 jobs, and anticipate gross receipts of \$1M per year or less.

Current economic conditions present funding challenges for emerging businesses. The IDA applied for the USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant last summer with the

intention of developing a revolving loan fund to support and encourage small business development in the area.

Richard Turner, Chairman of the IDA said, “We recognize that the support and development of local entrepreneurs is an important element in recovering from the current recession. To give these small businesses a chance to develop and grow could have a huge payoff for our community at the end of the day.”

For guidelines and more information, please send a letter of interest to City of Danville Office of Economic Development, P O Box 3300, Danville, VA 24543 giving a brief description of the business by Jan. 15, 2010. Deadline for completed applications for the funds will be February 15, 2010. Awards will be made by April 1, 2010. Winners will be required to sign a loan agreement and make monthly payments for the two year period.

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