

PRESS RELEASE – For immediate release

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## **Entrepreneurship seminars begin June 10**

**CHARLOTTE** – Local residents interested in starting a business or developing their entrepreneurial skills can take advantage of a new seminar series sponsored by the City of Charlotte, the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and Can Do!. The free, four-part series begins the evening of June 10 and will be held at Charlotte City Hall, located at 111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. The program begins at 6 p.m.

Entrepreneurship and small business development is one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy, and the source of most new job creation. Whether your aspirations as an entrepreneur are ambitious or modest, unique or familiar, this program can help you turn ideas into realities. If you like to work and want to work for yourself, you will need entrepreneurial skills and abilities.

Led by Charlotte Mayor Pro-Tem Dee Smith, former director of the Small Business Development Center at Lansing Community College, the series will guide participants through the creation of a business plan, and draw on the personal expertise of other local business owners, consultants and service providers.

The seminars are a continuation of the locally popular Evening with the Experts instructional series that has previously focused on entrepreneurship, job seeking, and leadership development. However, due to interest in this topic, the new series is being revised and extended from previous entrepreneurship offerings.

In addition to the June 10 seminar on business plan preparation, three subsequent seminars related to new business start-ups will be held at 6 p.m. on the evenings of June 17, June 24 and July 1. These will offer prospective new business owners valuable information related to financial management, taxes, business law, marketing, borrowing/lending, insurance and other topics. June 17 participants will also be able to discuss their individual plans and business ideas in a one-on-one setting with local experts in these areas.

These free seminars are the perfect opportunity for anyone thinking about starting a business. No matter what stage your planning may be in, there will be something for you to gain from these programs. Even those who are simply curious about what it takes to go into business for themselves can benefit from attending. Now being offered for a third time here in Charlotte, the Evening with the Experts entrepreneurship series has established a track record of success. Several participants from previous years have gone on to start successful businesses, both large and small, in this community.

All four seminars are free and open to the public, but those interested in participating are asked to register by calling Bryan Myrkle at (517) 543-8853. This helps ensure enough space and materials for all who attend.