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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. OF NEW HAVEN PARTNERS WITH GAVA
TO SUPPORT FIRST-EVER HEALTH FAIR**

New Haven, Connecticut, August 26, 2008 – Formed early this year by New Haven Mayor John DeStefano Jr. to bolster economic development throughout the city, the Economic Development Corporation of New Haven is excited to partner with GAVA to support the first-ever Fair Haven Healthy Living Health Fair on Thursday, August 28.

The Economic Development Corporation of New Haven (EDC) is a private, not-for-profit corporation focused exclusively on strengthening and growing New Haven's economic base by retaining and attracting new businesses and fostering a vibrant and proactive economic climate in the city and its neighborhoods. The EDC works in partnership with the City of New Haven, Yale University, the business community and neighborhood organizations such as GAVA, the Grand Avenue Village Association.

One of the goals of the EDC is to help develop a stronger Grand Avenue business district. Fair Haven is one of New Haven's busiest commercial districts, and home to the largest Latino population in the state. The Health Fair is also being sponsored by two other community groups, CitySeed and JUNTA For Progressive Action.

Michele L. Whelley, CEO of the EDC says the Health Fair is a perfect opportunity to build relationships with business and community leaders and help instill a sense of excitement and pride in the Grand Avenue neighborhood.

"One of the primary missions of our organization is collaborating with community business leaders to help invigorate and revitalize our neighborhoods so they will be attractive places to live and conduct business."

The Health Fair will take place from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Farmers Market at the Quinnipiac River Park on Front Street. There will be free transportation via the Mary Wade bus.

In addition to the traditional Connecticut-grown fresh produce that is regularly featured at the Farmers Market, the Fair Haven Healthy Living Fair will be an interactive event where visitors can see live demonstrations and engage in healthy and fun activities for the entire family. Free posture screenings will be offered, first aid kits will be given away, and there will be physicians, pharmacists and nutritionists available to check your blood pressure and cholesterol, do a diabetes risk assessment, and assess your overall health and fitness.

For more information about the Economic Development Corporation of New Haven, contact Michele Whelley at (203) 785-1000.

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