



Contact: Kathryn Moschella
think creative group
(203) 363-0301 - Office
(203) 219-6522 – Mobile
kmoschella@optonline.net

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. OF NEW HAVEN AND THE WASSD
WELCOME NEW WHALLEY AVENUE RESTAURANT**

New Haven, Connecticut, September 5, 2008 – Mayor John DeStefano and The Economic Development Corporation of New Haven (EDC), formed this year by the Mayor to bolster economic development throughout the city, are hosting a Grand Opening Celebration of Mama Mary’s Restaurant at 372 Whalley Avenue on Tuesday, September 9 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The celebration also marks the beginning of a partnership between the EDC and the Whalley Avenue Special Services District (WASSD), a commercial improvement district targeting the Whalley Avenue corridor, one of New Haven’s most traveled and visible business corridors.

The Economic Development Corporation of New Haven (EDC), a not-for-profit, is committed to strengthening, growing and attracting businesses to New Haven, and fostering a vibrant economic climate in the city and throughout its neighborhoods. One of the goals of the EDC is to provide technical and practical assistance to the WASSD to help revitalize and grow its commercial district

Mama Mary’s Restaurant, owned by Robert Harris and his wife Tanya recently relocated from its longtime location at 636 Congress Avenue, where it was recognized as one of the finest soul food restaurants in the area. The move, which included an upscale renovation, was intended to expand the restaurant’s clientele while maintaining the same popular cuisine.

Michele L. Whelley, CEO of the EDC says the restaurant’s new location, combined with its well-known reputation in the community is a welcome addition to Whalley Avenue.

“An important mission of our organization is to help New Haven’s neighborhood commercial areas grow and prosper, and we are happy to partner with the WASSD to help strengthen and energize its business community. Mama Mary’s Restaurant will most certainly contribute to this growing and thriving environment.”

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

###