



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Leila Mozaffari, Director of Orange County SBDC, Earns National State Star Award**

(Santa Ana)—Leila Mozaffari, director of the Orange County Small Business Development Center (SBDC), was named one of six 2009 California “State Stars” by the national Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC).

The national association annually recognizes Small Business Development Center leaders who are exemplary performers, who make significant contributions to their state or regional SBDC program, and who commit their time and talents to small businesses.

Mozaffari, who has led the Orange County SBDC since 2006, was nominated by Jesse Torres, lead center director for the Santa Ana Region, for the honor. The award was presented on September 17 in Orlando, Fla., at the ASBDC annual conference.

“As director for the Orange County SBDC, Leila Mozaffari has shown exemplary leadership despite the extraordinary economic challenges facing our region,” said Torres. “Thus far for 2009, the Orange County SBDC has counseled more than 930 clients, trained close to 1,500 entrepreneurs, generated more than \$18 million in increased sales and helped businesses create 121 new jobs and retain 90.”

In the past year, the Orange County SBDC, an economic development program of Rancho Santiago Community College District, has expanded its operations to include services in south Orange County and launched a new Green Business Consulting Program, which assists entrepreneurs interested in starting a green business or taking a current enterprise to the next level. In 2009, the Orange County SBDC was recognized as a Center of Excellence by the U.S. Small Business Administration Santa Ana District.

The Orange County SBDC offers no-charge, personalized business assistance in a confidential, one-on-one setting, and team business consulting. The center also presents low-cost seminars that cover important topics, including access to capital, QuickBooks, employment law, marketing, government contracting, Web technology, and writing a business plan—taught by the

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center's professional business consultants and industry experts.

For more information on the Orange County SBDC programs or services, call (714) 564-5200 or visit [www.ocsbdc.com](http://www.ocsbdc.com).

**About the Orange County Small Business Development Center**

*The Orange County Small Business Development Center (OCSBDC), an economic development program of Rancho Santiago Community College District, is partially supported by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the California State University, Fullerton and the California Community College Chancellor's Office. The OCSBDC is a one-stop source for business planning, business development, international business resources, education and training, loan assistance and expansion strategies.*

**About Rancho Santiago Community College District**

*Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College are public community colleges of the Rancho Santiago Community College District, which serves the residents of Anaheim Hills, Garden Grove, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, Tustin and Villa Park. Both colleges provide education for academic transfer and careers, courses for personal and professional development, and customized training for business and industry.*

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