

Business First of Buffalo - May 9, 2007

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Citizens invests in Buffalo

Business First of Buffalo - by [Thomas Hartley](#) Business First

An \$8.5 million neighborhood investment program in the City of Buffalo was announced today by **Citizens Bank**.

The Rhode Island-based bank has committed that amount in loans and grants over three years to encourage affordable housing, home improvement, neighborhood development and other initiatives.

Through a partnership with Buffalo and neighborhood organizations, Citizens Bank will provide \$5.95 million for economic development and small business lending, and \$2.2 million for affordable-housing and home-improvement programs.

Participants include **Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corp.**, Hamlin Park Adopt a Neighborhood, the Foreclosure Homeownership Program, and the Citizens Bank EZ Home Improvement Loan program.

Similar economic development and affordable housing initiatives have been created by Citizens Bank in Albany, Syracuse and Rochester.

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