

Small Business

LETTERS | JANUARY 5, 2009

We're Right to Push for More Charity for Minorities

Article

Comments

Email Print Save This Like x 1 + More Text

At first your editorial "The Philanthropy Shakedown" (Dec. 30) on the efforts by Greenlining and the Florida Minority Community Reinvestment Coalition with foundations made me chuckle. But I concluded that your opinion is a derivative of nothing more than ignorance.

We focus on communities of color because we realize that our communities are this country's future. People of color will be the majority population of all major cities in the next 10 years (sooner in New York).

The economic distress of minority communities is one of the most pressing issues in the U.S. The lack of businesses and jobs fuels a crushing cycle of poverty and crippling social problems, such as drug abuse and crime. The establishment of a sustainable economic base together with employment opportunities, wealth creation, role models and improved local infrastructure will enable our communities to better contribute to this country's economic well-being.

The most effective way to address issues of poverty, crime and education with underserved communities is through grass-roots organizations. This concept is what Wall Street would call decentralization. This is done using what we call "Community Access Points," which are minority organizations that are located in their respective communities. I am proud of every minority organization leader who is in the trenches every day, working for very little money but whose work makes this a stronger country, family by family.

Florida and our country are in dire need of leaders with an inclusive vision and the courage to see it through. I came from California and am a disciple of the late, great Cesar Chavez's philosophy. At the heart of this philosophy are the following principles: Justice and righteousness shall be the foundation of our country's throne; rich and poor are all equal; and communities of color need to be heard and respected.

To call us shakedown artists is comical at the very least. But we will not be intimidated and will continue our efforts to build a greater country.

Al Piña
Chair
Florida Minority Community Reinvestment Coalition
Tampa, Fla.

Printed in The Wall Street Journal, page A12

Email Printer Friendly Order Reprints

Share: Facebook Twitter LinkedIn YouTube Dribbble SoundCloud RSS

Like You like this. Unlike Admin Page Error
You like this Sign Up to see what your friends like. Unlike Admin Page Error

### Penny stocks soaring 900%

Come experience penny stock gains with our free & accurate newsletter  
[www.PennyStocksUniverse.com](http://www.PennyStocksUniverse.com)

### Refinance Rates at 2.9%

\$160,000 mortgage: \$434/mo. Free. No Obligation. Get a Quote! 3.1% APR  
[Lendgo.com/mortgage](http://Lendgo.com/mortgage)

### BlackBerry® Official Site

Bring Your Experiences To Life. Find Your BlackBerry Today.  
[BlackBerry.com](http://BlackBerry.com)

### Affordable Refinance Rate

\$200K mortgage for \$842/mo? No SSN needed. Request secure & free quote  
[Refinance.GuideToLenders.com](http://Refinance.GuideToLenders.com)

## Add a Comment

JOURNAL COMMUNITY

We welcome your thoughtful comments. Please comply with our Community rules. All comments will display your real name.

Want to participate in the discussion?

REGISTER FOR FREE ▶

Or log in or become a subscriber now for complete Journal access.

Track replies to my comment

Go to Comments tab

CLEAR

POST

Share articles and post your comments on Facebook | What's this?

Login with Facebook

WSJ.com

## Expand your access to WSJ.com

### It only takes a moment

Click here to unlock your **FREE** access to more newsletters, alerts and key analysis

CLICK HERE

## Video >



**igits: RIM Co-CEO Launching the Playbook**  
23



**igits: Will Cheap iPhone Be as Common as iPod?**  
12:44



**Lady Gaga Wins A Grammy!**  
1:01

## Most Popular >

Read | Emailed | Video | Commented | Searches

1. **A Cantilevered Glass House**
2. **Apple Develops Less-Expensive iPhones**
3. **Nokia Expects Billions From Microsoft**
4. **U.S. Deficit Expected to Spike**
5. **Ominous Undertone of Stock Rallies**

Most Read Articles Feed

## Latest Headlines

- Obama Proposes \$3.73 Trillion Budget
- Men Charged With Trying to Aid Taliban
- Public-Worker Unions Steel for Cuts
- Giffords's Speech Progresses Quickly
- U.S. -Pakistan Row Intensifies
- Recovery Redefines G-20 Challenge
- Threat Builds on the Margins
- GOP to Block Renewal of Build America Bonds Program
- Pipe Imperfection Found After Pa. Blast
- Man Held After New York Killing Spree

More Headlines

## Editors' Picks



**Apple Develops Less-Expensive iPhones**



**The Rooney Video That's So Hard to Find**



**The Secret to a Happy Marriage: Do the Dishes, Put Out, Don't Talk So Much.**



**A Warm-Up in New York's Luxury Real Estate Market?**



**A Pie Fight Starts Over a Cream-Filled Cake**

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

BACK TO TOP ▲

WSJ.com Account:

- My Account
- Subscriber Billing Info

Create an Account:

- Register for Free

About:

- News Licensing
- Advertising
- Advertise Locally
- Conferences
- About Dow Jones

WSJ.com:

- Site Map
- Home
- World
- U.S.
- New York

Tools & Formats:

- Today's Paper
- Video Center
- Graphics
- Columns
- Blogs

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Digital Network

- WSJ.com
- Marketwatch.com
- Barrons.com

- [Subscribe to WSJ.com](#)
  - [Sign up for WSJ Professional](#)
- Help & Information Center:
- [Help](#)
  - [Customer Service](#)
  - [Contact Us](#)
  - [New on WSJ.com](#)
  - [Tour the new Journal](#)

- [Privacy Policy - Updated](#)
- [Subscriber Agreement & Terms of Use - Updated](#)
- [Copyright Policy](#)
- [Jobs at WSJ.com](#)

- [Business](#)
- [Markets](#)
- [Market Data](#)
- [Tech](#)
- [Personal Finance](#)
- [Life & Culture](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Autos](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Small Business](#)
- [Student Journal](#)
- [Corrections](#)

- [Topics](#)
- [Guides](#)
- [Alerts](#)
- [Newsletters](#)
- [Mobile](#)
- [Tablet Edition](#)
- [Podcasts](#)
- [RSS Feeds](#)
- [Journal Community](#)
- [WSJ on Twitter](#)
- [WSJ on Facebook](#)
- [WSJ on Foursquare](#)
- [My Journal](#)
- [Portfolio](#)

- [SmartMoney.com](#)
  - [AllThingsD.com](#)
  - [FINS: Finance, IT jobs, Sales jobs](#)
  - [BigCharts.com](#)
  - [Virtual Stock Exchange](#)
  - [WSJ Radio](#)
  - [ProfessorJournal.com](#)
  - [WSJ U.S. Edition](#)
  - [WSJ Asia Edition](#)
  - [WSJ Europe Edition](#)
  - [WSJ India Page](#)
- Foreign Language Editions:
- [WSJ Chinese](#)
  - [WSJ Japanese](#)
  - [WSJ Portuguese](#)
  - [WSJ Spanish](#)



Copyright ©2011 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved