

***Community Board 7 Hosts 4th B2B Program and Networking Reception
With Keynote Speaker, Andrew Rigie, Executive Director, NYC Hospitality Alliance***

Tuesday, October 29, 6-8 p.m.

at Hostelling International New York, 891 Amsterdam Avenue at West 103rd Street

The Business and Consumer Issues Committee Arranges Fourth Seminar in Community Outreach Series for Local Business Owners, Non-Profits and CB7 Members.

NEW YORK (October 7, 2013) – The Business Consumer Issues Committee (“BCI”) of Community Board 7/Manhattan is hosting “**Food for Thought: Jobs and the Hospitality Industry**” as its fourth B2B program and networking event, Tuesday, October 29th, 6-8 p.m. at Hostelling International New York, 891 Amsterdam Avenue, between 103rd and 104th Streets. Keynote speaker for the evening will be Andrew Rigie, Executive Director of the New York City Hospitality Alliance, an organization representing wide range of participants in the local hospitality industry, including restaurants, bars, lounges, hotels and suppliers.

“The hospitality and restaurant industries are among the fastest growing sectors in the country, making them great sources for job creation and revenue,” says BCI co-chair George A. Zeppenfeldt-Cestero. “The Upper West Side has become a hub for these businesses and we want to encourage their continued success, as well as help the many start-ups in our community by creating more opportunities for dialogue.”

Among the corporations that have already committed to providing special promotions, one-stop advice and other services for the B2B series are Aetna, Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Healthfirst, Fedex/Kinkos, MetLife, Roosevelt Hospital Center/Continuum Health Partners, TD Bank, Verizon and Reebok Sports Club. (There are a limited number of free exhibitor tables. If you are interested in a table, subject to availability, please reserve yours by 10/18 at email below.) Also invited are career services departments at high schools and colleges as well as other organizations offering apprenticeships and training programs.

Adds Michele Parker, co-chair BCI, “Our committee has oversight on applications for liquor licenses and sidewalk cafes, so we work closely with the restaurateurs and hotel owners to make sure the city’s criteria are met. They contribute tremendously to our community, but there are always ways to improve relationships with residents and other businesses to ensure better overall synergy.” This fourth B2B will focus on both traditional career opportunities in the hospitality industry as well as emerging opportunities such as human resources, digital technology/social media, event planning and executive-level positions.

There is no charge to attend the B2B event. For more information, such as table exhibits, contact the BCI Co-Chair George Zeppenfeldt at GZCLeader@gmail.com . **Register for this event at:** <http://goo.gl/Ikye2x>

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