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## **Minority-Owned Businesses Get State Support to Grow**

*Two companies in Toledo receive assistance for expansion opportunities*

Two minority-owned businesses in Lucas County received help from the state today to take their businesses to the next level. The Ohio Development Services Agency provided a \$70,000 Minority Direct Loan to Let's Play School Family Child Care, LLC and a \$1 million bond request for American Flooring Installers, LLC. A bond is an insurance policy for a project owner that guarantees that work will be completed by a general contractor or sub-contractor.

"Continued growth is a key element for any successful business," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency. "The Minority Development Finance Advisory Board provides minority-owned business the tools they need for expansion and job creation."

**Let's Play School Family Child Care, LLC** will receive a \$70,000 Minority Direct Loan to purchase a former church building located at 3445 Manhattan Blvd. in Toledo. This loan will allow the business owner, Linda Watkins-Strong, to move from her home into a new space and become a full-service child care center.

**American Flooring Installers, LLC** will receive a bonding line increase from \$700,000 to \$1 million in order to become a general contractor and expand its reach into Michigan and the Cleveland area. American Flooring Installers provides flooring products and installation to commercial, industrial and institutional entities throughout Northwest Ohio.

All projects must go to Controlling Board for approval.

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