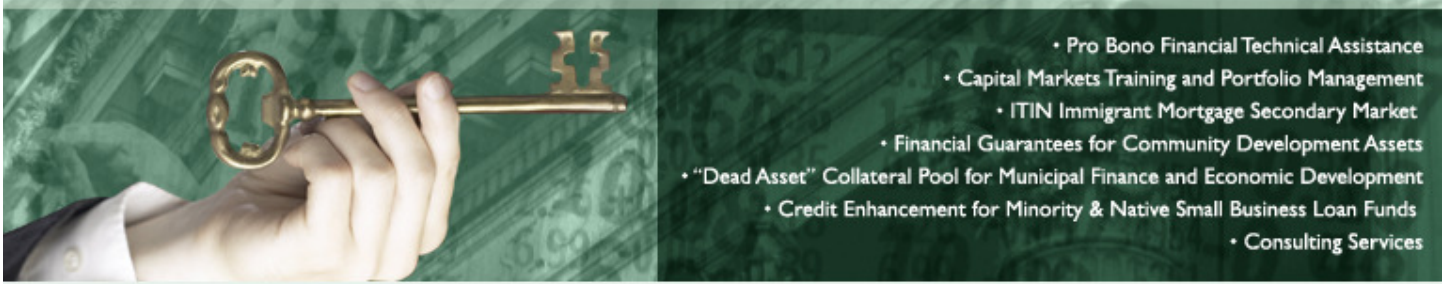




WALL STREET WITHOUT WALLS

Preparing Community Development Organizations for the Capital Markets



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL FINANCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVES
HONOR GREG STANTON, FOUNDER OF WALL STREET WITHOUT WALLS,
LUTHER RAGIN, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE HERON FOUNDATION, AND
JIM LEBENTHAL OF LEBENTHAL & CO.**

NEW YORK, NY, Dec. 4, 2008 – Members of the Walls Street Without Walls (WSWW) Board of Advisors will be honoring founder Greg Stanton and discussing community development finance in the context of the declining markets. Mr. Stanton, now retired, will be presented with the 1st Annual Lifetime Achievement in Community Development Finance Award during the 2008 Advisory Board Meeting held at the law offices of McDermott Will and Emery in New York City (www.mwe.com).

Speakers at the meeting will discuss the role of municipal finance in today's volatile market, the future of capital markets and the role of development finance, as well as a progress update of WSWW. Peter Humphreys, partner at McDermott Will & Emery, Gregory Anderson, Co-Chair of WSWW, John Nelson, Managing Partner of WSWW, Wayne Curtis, Managing Director of WSWW, James Lebenthal, of Lebenthal & Co, Luther Ragin, Jr., Vice President of the F.B. Heron Foundation, and Greg Stanton, founder of WSWW will all provide comments.

The meeting will also honor the Heron Foundation's Luther Ragin with the "Innovation in Community Development Finance" Award for his work in "mission related investing" by foundations (www.heronfdn.org); and James Lebenthal with the annual *Templeton League* Award for "Outstanding Volunteer Financial Technical Assistance" for Lebenthal & Co's contributions to WSWW, economic development, and municipal finance (www.lebenthal.com).

A major message at the meeting for the Board of Advisors will be that the giving of one's expertise is a valuable, new form of philanthropy. This theme is reflected by the idea that *pro bono* financial technical assistance from financial executives to community groups will promote economic development in the United States and help community-based organizations access new sources of mission capital from the private capital markets, especially in this volatile economic environment. The John Templeton Foundation has supported WSWW with a major grant in support of recruiting senior and retired financial executives to volunteer their time as a form of purpose in retirement and sharing of their expertise.

Mr. Stanton retired on July 4. He began his Wall Street career at Drexell Burnham Lambert, was with Daiwa Securities, and then formed his own firm, Dover Securities. He founded WSWW in 1998 to harness the talents of his fellow Wall Streeters as volunteers to help non-profit community development organizations access new sources of mission capital. He is a current member of the Guidestar Board of Directors; Co-Chair of the Wall Street without Walls Advisory Board; Board of Advisors to New York City's Department of Economic Development - New Markets Tax Credit Corp; Member of the Board of Advisors to Community Reinvestment Fund New Markets Funding Corp; an advisor to the Milken Institute's Emerging Domestic Markets Program; on the Advisory Board for the Karsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire; and a member of the Board of Advisors for Community Development Assurance. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of National Cooperative Bank Development Corp, a former member of the Board of Overseers, Southern New Hampshire University's School of Community Economic Development; and a former member of the Board of Directors for Children's Progress, Inc.

"Greg Stanton's contributions to community development finance have been immense," said Managing Partner of Wall Street Without Walls, John Nelson. "His work has helped bridge non-profit organizations and the private capital markets, resulting in over \$1B of new capital, and has created programs and connections that have forever changed the field of community development finance."

Wall Street Without Walls provides *pro bono* financial technical assistance (FTA) to community development organizations engaged in the diverse work of community economic development in low- and moderate-wealth communities, both urban and rural. WSWW achieves this mission by connecting senior and retired volunteers who have investment banking and capital markets experience with community development

organizations that are seeking creative solutions to accessing new sources of capital. The goal of each project is to help a community development organization think through a financing need, and identify the best sources and structures for funding it. Potential volunteers and community-based organizations or cities seeking financial technical assistance can call John Nelson, General Partner of Wall Street Without Walls, Washington, DC at 202-375-7764 or the website www.wallstreetwithoutwalls.com.

The luncheon is co-presented by WSWW partners Impact Community Capital (www.impactcapital.net), a San Francisco-based consortium of insurance companies investing in community projects; and the Connecticut-based, non-profit owned socially responsible brokerage firm AltruShare Securities (www.AltruShare.com), as well as the Pennsylvania-based John Templeton Foundation (www.templeton.org) which funds the *Templeton League* of retired financial executives volunteering their expertise on behalf of WSWW and the communities they serve nationwide.

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This is a private event. If press would like to attend, or for more information about Wall Street Without Walls, call Ian Fisk, Director of Projects, at 202-375-7764, or visit the website at <http://www.wallstreetwithoutwalls.com>.