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AFRICAN-AMERICAN LEADERS TO MEET, PUSH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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More than 150 African-American entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, politicians and religious leaders will get together this week to talk about entrepreneurship in Charlotte's black community.

CBP Publishing Co. Inc., publisher of CBP's Visitor's Guide to Black

Charlotte and CBP's African-American Business Directory, is sponsoring a

luncheon Friday at FDY Banquets & Catering in Charlotte. The company plans for it to become an annual event.

Lawrence Toliver, vice president of the Charlotte Chamber's Business

Enterprise Division, will speak to the group about the economic impact of small businesses in disadvantaged communities.

Juan Whipple, CBP's president, said he wants to build awareness among the African-American community about entrepreneurship.

"We have to train our people to think ownership rather than work for someone else. We have to get them to think about hiring people from the community," Whipple said.

"The Cubans do it in Miami. The Jewish community does it well. They keep the dollar turning around and around in their communities, but for some reason African-Americans haven't caught on to that process yet."

Whipple said the meeting will bring together people and information, and

that future events will offer business training.

Friday's luncheon will benefit the Anita Stroud Foundation, which provides after-school programs and summer camps for disadvantaged children.

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If you're interested

The luncheon will be at FDY Banquets & Catering, 3411 St. Vardell Ln.

Tickets cost \$10. For more information, call Whipple at 529-2972 from 8 a.m.

to 8 p.m. weekdays.

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