

2003 Annual Report Executive Summary

Empowerment Alliance of SW Florida

The lead entity for the Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community grant application in 1998 was the Community Foundation of Collier County. In July of 2000 the Empowerment Alliance formed a grass roots non-profit corporation and in June 2001 received our tax-exempt status from the IRS. The Community Foundation provided board training and leadership development as well as assistance with fiscal management. In February 2003 the Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida Community Development Corporation became the lead entity for the Enterprise Community Program. Our Board of Directors includes 15 members, with over 50% of the Board comprised of members elected from each census tract and representative of the low-income communities they serve. This is a major step to creating a sustainable community effort to empower and build the Enterprise Community.