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OGONTZ AVENUE REVITALIZATION CORPORATION REACHES 25 YEARS

PHILADELPHIA, PA (September 12, 2008) – For 25 years the Ogontz Avenue Revitalization Corporation (OARC) has been energizing the community and today, the rebranding of the West Oak Lane community as a safe, vibrant place to live and a destination for cultural and social activities is reflective of the organization’s success. Jack Kitchen, President and Chief Executive Officer of OARC states, “The success of OARC, built on the inspiration of the original founders, has created a legacy and a blueprint of how a community can create a renaissance that is sustainable and continually creates value over time”.

On October 2, 2008 OARC will celebrate its 25th Anniversary with a kick-off event at 11:00 AM in the parking lot of Sadiki’s located at 7152 Ogontz Avenue, Philadelphia, PA. At that time there will be a ceremony at which several local small business owners located on Ogontz Avenue as well as the Honorable Dwight Evans will be honored. A “Time Capsule” dedication will take place with items significant to OARC’s accomplishments placed in a capsule that will be opened in ten years when OARC reaches its 35th Anniversary.

The celebration will continue with a reception to be held 6:00 PM at the World Café Live located at 3025 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA. During the reception, there will be a ceremony honoring Representative Dwight Evans for his leadership and vision by awarding the first annual Dwight Evens Leadership Award to four distinguished individuals who have had significant roles in transforming lives throughout the region. Tickets are available for this event. For additional information, call 215-517-8040.

ABOUT OARC – OARC is a non-profit, 501(c) (3) community development corporation and a pioneer in the economic development of commercial corridors and residential neighborhoods throughout the Northwest Philadelphia area. Founded in 1983 by State Representative Dwight Evans, OARC is also the executive producer of the internationally acclaimed West Oak Lane Jazz & Arts Festival. OARC works with other community leaders, elected officials and various organizations who share in their mission to revitalize neighborhoods and encourage housing, economic development, cleaning and greening, education, community relations, arts and culture as an effective approach. To find out more about OARC, please visit www.OARCPhilly.org.

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