

**GRACE INSTITUTE**  
1233 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10021  
Tel.: 212-832-7605  
Fax: 212-486-2869  
www.graceinstitute.org



**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Michele McEvoy  
212-832-7605 (work)  
202-577-8149 (cell)  
mmcevoy@graceinstitute.org

## **Job Fair on June 7 Offers City's Disadvantaged a New Beginning**

*As the city administration searches for new solutions to the war on poverty, Grace Institute organizes event to help economically disadvantaged women find employment.*

New York, New York (May 31, 2007)—With one in five New Yorkers living below the federal poverty level, Mayor Bloomberg has made eliminating poverty a primary goal. The nonprofit Grace Institute, which provides **tuition-free** job training to economically disadvantaged women in the New York area, shares that mission. By teaching women the skills they need to successfully enter and remain in the workforce, Grace Institute helps break the cycle of poverty that traps so many New Yorkers and their families. On **June 7**, the school is hosting a Job Fair where over 200 students will meet with representatives from more than 30 top law firms, corporations, universities, and more.

While city poverty statistics are alarming—single mothers make up two-thirds of New York City's poor families with children—**80% of Grace graduates are employed in jobs with benefits**. The Job Fair opens doors for women faced with alternatives like shelter life, more unemployment, or dead-end jobs without benefits.

The Job Fair gives students the opportunity to present resumes and network with companies while employers looking to fill administrative and clerical positions are able to meet professionally trained candidates. "I am very proud of our students, who have persevered through tough times and achieved so much. They are eager to use the skills they've learned in the workplace, seize opportunities, and provide a better life for themselves and their families," says Jolene Handy, Director of Career Services at Grace Institute.

Companies represented at June's Job Fair include, among others, Aflac, American Cancer Society, Bank Leumi USA, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York, Citigroup, Commerce Bank, ConEdison, Forbes, Fordham University, Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobsen LLP, JPMorgan Chase, Harlem School of the Arts, Latham & Watkins LLP, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Merrill Lynch, New York Life, New York-Presbyterian The University Hospitals of Columbia and Cornell, New York University Medical Center, Penguin Group (USA), and Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP.

Founded in 1897 by W.R. Grace, twice mayor of New York City, Grace Institute began as a school to help New York women, especially immigrants, find employment. For over 100 years, Grace Institute has provided tuition-free, practical job training in a supportive learning community for underserved New York area women of all ages and from many different backgrounds. In the tradition of its founding family, Grace is dedicated to the development of the personal and business skills necessary for self-sufficiency, employability and an improved quality of life.