

## Entrepreneurial spirit vital in tough times

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Economy talk in the community is no longer just about how bad it is out there and how long a recession might last. It is now shifting to what can we do collectively and cooperatively.

A common refrain: It's not the time to sink into depression about the recession.

In times like these, it's most important to regenerate the spirit of entrepreneurship and to develop strategies that include building alliances, said Jame Empowerment with an Attitude, speaking at a Miami-Dade Chamber event Friday. "Look for new and creative ways to survive and thrive."

It's all about business helping business.

To that end, the Miami-Dade Chamber is working with community groups to develop a vehicle for making investments in the black community, said B include a program to incubate and partner with small businesses.

Surviving and thriving also means using all available resources to get deals done, said David Wilson, president of Equifinancial and other South Florida Business Investment Board as one such resource.

To be sure, there are opportunities in real estate, but we will have to shift our thinking to the way it used to be, said William Hardin, director of real estate is a conservative investment.

Clingman, Wilson, Hardin and David Alexander, CEO of St. Johns Community Development Corp., offered this:

Tighten up, trim costs where you can and consider bartering for goods and services to save valuable dollars. (Check out [lthacahours.com](http://lthacahours.com) for an exam

Get involved in the community and develop relationships. Surround yourself with smart, talented people.

Invest in yourself. Ultimately, our most valuable asset is human capital.

We live in interesting times. Share your strategies for surviving and thriving. E-mail [ndahlberg@MiamiHerald.com](mailto:ndahlberg@MiamiHerald.com)

Nancy Dahlberg is editor of Business Monday.