



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*EMR, Inc Proudly Announces CEO Chosen for Helzberg 2009 Mentoring Program*

*Lawrence, KS, September 09, 2009* - The Helzberg Entrepreneurial Mentoring Program announced its 2009 class of entrepreneurs for its 2009 program, representing a broad range of businesses and industries. Among the members of this year's class is Connie Cook, CEO of EMR, Inc., *Infrastructure and Environment*.

"I consider it an honor to be chosen for this program. It will provide guidance from an experienced entrepreneur as well as provide many networking opportunities for EMR within Kansas City," says Cook. "I am always looking for new opportunities where I can gain knowledge and experience while continuing to grow our company," she added.

Joining Cook, representing the 2009 class for the HEMP program are: **LeAnne Cofield**, Visage Inc.; **Steve Cole**, Dedicated Distribution; **Kristopher Dabner**, The Greensman Inc.; **Don Derry**, KC Waterproofing Solutions LLC; **Denise Henning**, The Henning Law Firm, P.C.; **Scott Murray**, Goldblatt Tool Company, LLC ; **Mark Nolte**, MarkMedical Inc.; **Jim Weir**, CompResults Managed Care; **Kevin Wilkerson**, NAI Capital Realty LLC; **David Windhausen**, Trabon Solutions; **Ronda Zillner**, Zillner Marketing Communications.

Barnett Helzberg Jr., former owner and president of Helzberg Diamonds and founder of the mentoring program said, "The HEMP class of 2009 is comprised of some of Kansas City's finest entrepreneurs. We are honored to have 3 new mentors offer their time and expertise as well. I feel very fortunate to have been mentored throughout the various phases of my business career, and HEMP is one way for many of us to give back to the entrepreneurial community."

The three mentors who have joined the mentoring program are: **Tyler Nottberg**, U.S. Engineering Company; **Don Proffer**, Proffer Productions; **Jack Schmid**, J. Schmid and Assoc.

HEMP was founded in 1995 and was inspired by Helzberg's 23-year mentoring relationship with Ewing Kauffman. HEMP matches seasoned, successful entrepreneur mentors with less-experienced, entrepreneur mentees. The organization has helped more than 140 entrepreneurs during the past 13 years and currently has more than 36 active mentor/mentee pairs. HEMP is designed to be a three-year, facilitated program beginning in the latter part of each year.

"The goal of our program is to promote entrepreneurial success to positively impact owners, employees, families and communities," said Ray Pitman, Vice-Chairman of the HEMP Board of Directors. "We help develop mentor/mentee relationships that emphasize chemistry and expertise rather than specific industry experience. Personal interaction remains the foundation of the program and has become a powerful source of inspiration and success."

*EMR Inc., a Native American Owned, Woman Owned Company, headquartered in Lawrence, Kansas.*