



**Entrepreneurial Leadership Awardee:**

**Ensman Alexander**, born in the village of Fyzabad, Trinidad, immigrated to the USA in February of 1985. He experienced the typical immigrant story of menial jobs and minimum wage while struggling to make ends meet. Ensman is an electrician by trade but found difficulty in securing employment for his skill because of the experience required in New York. Eventually, he was given an opportunity by an electrical contractor, which was the beginning of his career as an electrical contractor in New York. On his new job he met a fellow “Trini” electrician who took him under his wings and assisted him with the fundamentals of New York City codes. A quick learner, he took and passed the NYC Civil Service Electrical Exam, and was hired by NYC Health and Hospital Corporation.

He proceeded to further his studies and entered City College, where he obtained his B.A. in Electrical Engineering in 1996. In 2001, he formed Alkem Electrical Corp and the rest is history. To this day Ensman has enjoyed a successful electrical contracting business in New York.

Ensman is actively involved with several community programs that feed the homeless and less fortunate. He tutors other electricians preparing to pass the NYC Civil Service Electrical Exam. He is an avid supporter of Sesame Flyers volunteer Saturday Program and the Sesame Calypso Tent.

Ensman believes in the Kwanza principle **Ujamaa** (Cooperative Economics) in which we build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses to profit from them together.