



Supplier Diversity Inclusion Plan • Calendar Year 2020

Agency: Department of Services for the Blind

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2020 Department of Services for the Blind Supplier Diversity Inclusion Plan

Agency's plan to increase participation of certified small minority, women, and veteran owned firms:

The Department of Services for the Blind has experienced a large percentage of staff turnover over the last year. Since many staff are new to the agency, over the next year, it will be important to develop a procurement team that can begin developing; implementing and monitoring strategies to increase diversity spend with certified OMWBE businesses.

The goal of the procurement team is to support the OMWBE's mission to "promote equity and increase participation in public contracting and procurement for small businesses owned by minorities, women and disadvantaged persons by implementing basic strategies to include but not limited to:

- a) Provide training to staff regarding how to search and purchase from OMWBE Certified Firms, Individuals who are Veterans, and People with Disabilities
- b) Report successes and opportunities for improvement to increase OMWBE participation. Staff are educated on opportunities to increase supplier diversity.
- c) Advertise bidding opportunities through Department of Enterprises' WEBS vendor notification system or other systems to ensure minority and women's businesses and veteran owned firms are notified of opportunities.
- d) Include language in solicitations encouraging the use of minority and women-owned businesses as subcontractors.
- e) Encourage bidders to identify whether they are certified with OMWBE in their bid submittals by including an OMWBE Participation form in the solicitation.
- f) Add OMWBE language in solicitations encouraging firms to register with OMWBE.