

AAD SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

HOUSTON BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE – MARCH 2010



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CITY CERTIFICATION AND RELATED RESOURCES

CITY OF HOUSTON – AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND CONTRACT COMPLIANCE DIVISION OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Velma Laws, Director

Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (MWDBE) Program

Persons with Disabilities Business Enterprise (PDBE) Program, SBE Program

ADDRESS: 611 Walker, 7th floor; Houston, TX 77002; 713-837-9000; Fax: 713-837-9075

WEBSITE: www.houstonTX.gov/aacc

E-MAIL: velma.laws@cityofhouston.net

- Certification of MWDBE/SBEs and PDBEs and regularly updated MWDBE/SBE and PDBE Directory.
- Provides Contracting Guide, Sources of Assistance and quarterly newsletter- The Source
- Pre-certification workshops, Thursdays, 2:00p.m.
- “How to do Business with the City” and “How to Package a Successful Bid” workshops
- Technical assistance workshops and seminars for MWDBE/SBE and PDBE firms
- Sponsors Government Procurement Connections; Co-sponsors EXPO and Greater Houston Business Procurement Forum monthly breakfast
- Bid notifications by fax and e-mail
- Ombudsman services for assistance, information, and dispute resolution

CITY OF HOUSTON - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING

Daniel R. Menendez, Deputy Director, Engineering and Construction Division

ADDRESS: 611 Walker, 25th floor; Houston, TX 77002; 713-837-0540; Fax: 713-837-0698

WEBSITE: www.houstonTX.gov/publicworks/index.html

Information on all design and construction bid phase infrastructure projects in the Water, Wastewater, Street and Bridge, and Storm Water programs of the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Engineering and Construction Division meets its CIP commitments in a cost-effective manner by utilizing the expertise of the engineering and construction communities with as little inconvenience to the citizens of Houston as possible.

Procurement Information:

David Guernsey, Division Manager- 713-238-5241; Fax 713-238-5294

Jerry Roberts, Division Manager- 713-238-5241; Fax 713-238-5294

319 St. Emanuel; Houston, TX 77002

Information on Small Business Opportunities

Tony Henshaw, Manager, Small Business Development Group

611 Walker, 23rd floor; Houston, TX 77002; 713-837-0374; Fax: 713-837-0960

SBDG: P.O. Box 61185, Houston, TX 77208-1185; SBDG Hotline: 713-837-0819

- Develops new strategies to expand the PWE Small/ Minority/ Women Business Enterprises (S/MWBE) Program
- Provides outreach and education for S/MWBE's regarding accessibility and opportunities for participation in PWE contracts.
- Reviews projects prior to advertisement to set realistic S/MWBE participation goals.
- Ensures departmental compliance with the Mayor's Executive Order 1-7 “Pay or Play Program” (POP).

CITY OF HOUSTON - FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – STRATEGIC PURCHASING DIV.

Calvin D. Wells, City Purchasing Agent

ADDRESS: City Hall, 900 Bagby, B-109; Houston, TX 77002; 832-393-8800; Fax: 832-393-8760

WEBSITE: <http://purchasing.houstonTX.gov/>

- Informal and formal bids for supplies and nonprofessional services
- Vendor number application and information at 832-393-8800
- Bid notices are available from the following sources:
 1. Notice to Bidder section of the Houston Business Journal (Fridays)
 2. City Hall, 901 Bagby, Room B-120, posted in the Service Assistance area
 3. Municipal Access Channel, weekly
 4. Weekly rotation in minority periodicals
 5. Notice to Bidder and Notice of Proposals on the Internet

CITY OF HOUSTON - HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM

Janice D. Woods, Senior Administrator

ADDRESS: 16930 John F. Kennedy Blvd.; Houston, TX 77032; 281-233-3000; Fax: 281-233-1830

WEBSITE: www.fly2houston.com

- Information on planning, design, and construction for three airport facilities

CITY OF HOUSTON – HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM – SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND CONTRACT COMPLIANCE DIVISION

J. Goodwille Pierre, Manager; Jessica VanWert, Contracting Liaison

ADDRESS: 18600 Lee Rd., Humble, TX 77338; 281-233-7823; Fax: 281-230-2032

WEBSITE: www.fly2houston.com/0/158913/0/1987D5993/

- Provides information to Small, Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (MWDBEs) on contracting opportunities at George Bush Intercontinental Airport, William P. Hobby Airport, and Ellington Field.
- Administers Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program.
- Assists prime contractors with identifying certified S/MWDBEs for subcontracting opportunities.
- Initiates outreach activities designed to increase small and S/MWDBE participation on Houston Airport System projects and contracts.
- Monitors prime contractor MWDBE utilization and prevailing wage compliance.

CITY OF HOUSTON - ONE STOP BUSINESS ASSISTANCE CENTER

Neil Polansky, Manager; Pauline Young, Assistant Manager

ADDRESS: 900 Bagby, City Hall Annex, Houston, TX 77002; 832-393-0954; Fax: 832-393-0952

WEBSITE: www.houstontx.gov/onestop/

EMAIL: onestopbusinesscenter@cityofhouston.net

- Provides the **FREE**, 50 page **GETTING STARTED PACKET** for new and existing businesses, including information on permits, licenses, and regulations
- Directs businesses to sources of technical assistance, counseling, networking, mentoring, incubator, and educational opportunities
- Provides Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) business management counseling in-office
- Provides information and referrals to local, state, and federal financing programs, and incentives for new and existing small businesses
- Refers minority, women, and disadvantaged businesses to certification programs, HUB programs, and contracting opportunities with the City of Houston as well as other government agencies
- Provides troubleshooting and liaison assistance for businesses attempting to obtain permits and certificates issued by the City of Houston

CERTIFICATION AND M/WDBE and SBE PROGRAMS

AT&T (FORMERLY SBC)

For more information on how to do business with AT&T and AT&T's Supplier Diversity Programs
WEBSITE: www.attsuppliers.com

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM (HCCS)

Small Business Development Program

Jackqueline Swindle, Manager Operational Compliance and Small Business

ADDRESS: 3100 Main; Houston, TX 77002; 713-718-5206; Fax: 713-718-5221

WEBSITE: www.hccs.edu

- Assist small/minority/women/Business Enterprises, and assist economic development
- Provide community outreach programs to inform firms of SBE program and contracting opportunities
- Educate firms on how to do business with HCCS via workshops and seminars
- Notify businesses about upcoming opportunities through participation in business trade expos/fairs
- Ensure contract compliance is enforced on HCCS projects
- Provide technical assistance for approved vendors
- Collaborate with SBE/M/WBE advocates to assist all firms seeking to do business with HCCS
- Host monthly procurement forums and business expos (1st Monday of the month, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., 3100 Main, 2nd Floor in the Auditorium)
- Encourage and assist firms with international trade opportunities in conjunction with HCCS
- Co-sponsor SBE Networking Forums/Workshops, SBA Initiatives
- Provide SBE opportunities to participate in business incubator program
- Utilize SBD website to promote program initiatives
- Utilize online event registration to outreach to SBEs

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (HISD)

Office of Business Assistance

Linda McKeenan

ADDRESS: 4400 W. 18th St., Level 1 (SE); Houston, TX 77092; 713-556-7201

WEBSITE: www.houstonisd.org

- Assist Minority/Women/Business Enterprises (M/W/BE) with registration
- Establish accountability of money spent with M/W/BE firms
- Provide bid notifications of upcoming bid projects
- Provide M/W/BE firms with contact information of general contractors
- Mentor and counsel businesses individually or in group settings
- Provide bilingual business consulting services
- Provide assistance with marketing and business brochures
- Give referrals on the District's Procurement Services
- Conduct monthly workshops (every 1st Monday of the month at 8:30 a.m.)
- Work with Community Partnerships Department to develop alliances with major business partners that can offer mentoring, tutoring, supplies, services or financial contributions that can assist individual schools within HISD

HOUSTON MINORITY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (HMSDC)

Richard A. Huebner, President

ADDRESS: Three Riverway, Suite 555, Houston, TX 77056; 713-271-7805; Fax: 713-271-9770

WEBSITE: www.hmbc.org

EMAIL: richard.huebner@hmbc.org

- Corporate contact directory
- Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Corporate membership networking organization
- MBE certification accepted by State of Texas
- Business referrals/weekly bid list/procurement portal
- Educational seminars, workshops, and professional services forums
- Annual EXPO, Texas' largest Minority Business Development Trade Fair
- Guide to Member Services
- Scholarship Program

- Networking luncheons and special events
- MBE professional services website
- Consultants offering guidance and advice

HOUSTON BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Business and Technology Center

Marlon D. Mitchell, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 5330 Griggs; Houston, TX 77021; 713-845-2400; Fax: 713-645-2830

WEBSITE: www.hbdinc.org

EMAIL: info@hbdinc.org

- Low interest rate, long-term financing
- General business counseling and planning
- Resource library equipped with entrepreneurial start-up guides, trade journals, state of the art computers, and software
- Workshops and training sessions
- Office space and administrative support services

METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY (METRO)

Certification program for small businesses

Cynthia Dudley, Small Business Program Officer

ADDRESS: 1900 Main Street; Houston, TX 77002; 713-739-4070; Fax: 713-739-3857

WEBSITE: www.ridemetro.org

EMAIL: cd06@ridemetro.org

- Management and technical assistance programs (METRO Opportunities University)
- Quarterly networking forums
Shurronda Murray, Small Business Projects Specialist 713-739-4845, E-mail: sd01@ridemetro.org.
- Monthly networking/Procurement Breakfast and Evening Forum, and Outreach
- Outreach and networking events

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

Curtis R. Rose, CPM, Purchasing Manager 713-670-2460

Gilda Ramirez, Small Business Development Director 713-670-2590

ADDRESS: 111 E. Loop N.; Houston, TX 77029; 713-670-2400; Fax 713-670-2465

WEBSITE: www.portofhouston.com

EMAIL: crose@poha.com / smallbusiness@poha.com

The Port of Houston Authority's program is a race and gender neutral goal oriented program, targeting small businesses or requiring contractors to utilize small businesses. Under the program, all eligible contracts have a goal of 35% small business participation.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS (TXDOT)

R.D. Brown, Manager of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

ADDRESS: 125 East 11th; Austin, TX 78701; 866-480-2518; 512-486-5500; Fax: 512-486-5509

WEBSITE: www.dot.state.TX.us

- Certification of DBEs
- Technical assistance program
- Assists DBEs in procuring TXDOT contracts

WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE ALLIANCE (WBEA)

Susan Repka, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 1900 N. Loop W, Suite 270; Houston, TX 77018; 713-681-9232; Fax: 713-681-9242

WEBSITE: www.wbea-texas.org

EMAIL: srepka@wbea-texas.org

- Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) National Certification Program
- Breakfasts, luncheons, and after-hours networking events
- Women Business Entrepreneurs (WBE) trade fairs and Buyer Workshops
- Monthly educational workshops
- Corporate contact list and Suppliers Guide
- "Keys to Success" Networking Luncheons, Educational programs
- WBEA member orientation, Mentor Program, and Annual Awards Program
- Annual Women's Business Opportunity Expo, Annual Golf Classic, and Auction
- WBEA scholarships

BUSINESS RESOURCES

ACRES HOME CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Beulah Ann Shepard, Chairman

Kevin Solomon, Coordinator

ADDRESS: 6112 Wheatley; Houston, TX 77091-3947; 713-692-7161; Fax: 713-691-7131

WEBSITE: www.ahcbed.org

- Business counseling
- Workshops and training sessions

BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTER (@ Houston Business Development, Inc.)

Marlon Mitchell, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 5330 Griggs Road, #G101; Houston, TX 77021-3717; 713-845-2424; Fax: 713-845-2449

WEBSITE: www.scorehouston.org

- On-site, cross-trained customer service representatives from Houston Business Development, Inc. (HBD), Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), and Urban Business Initiative (UBI)
- Access to express loans of up to \$25,000
- Internet access, videotapes, Entrepreneur Magazine books on business operations, etc.
- Offers business start-up guides, one-on-one counseling, and on-site seminars

GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP (GHP)

ADDRESS: 1200 Smith Street, Suite 700; Houston, TX 77002; 713-844-3679 Fax: 713-844-0291

WEBSITE: www.houston.org

Greater Houston Partnership Membership Staff

Susan Asimakis, Senior Vice President, Member Services, 713-844-3679; Fax: 713-844-0279

EMAIL: sasimakis@houston.org

Minority Partnership Program Staff

Elaine Jefferson, Senior Vice President, Member Services, 713-844-3679;

EMAIL: ejefferson@houston.org

Jill Reese, Major Events Coordinator, 713-844-3682; Fax: 713-844-0294

EMAIL: jreese@houston.org

Business Development Programs

Seminars, industry-related councils, CEO Roundtables. Other committee involvement and networking events which are all available to members who wish to develop the skills and contacts to further enhance their business opportunities.

Minority Professional Services Program

The Minority Partnership Program promotes opportunities for minority business professional services executives to enhance business development.

JETRO HOUSTON (Japan External Trade Organization)

Kaoru Kurita, Director of Business Development

ADDRESS: 1221 McKinney St., Suite 4141, Houston TX 77010; 713.759.9595; Fax: 713.759.9210

WEBSITE: www.jetro.org/index.php?page=offices&state=TX

EMAIL: Kaoru_Kurita@jetro.go.jp

JETRO helps U.S. companies set up an office in Japan quickly & cost effectively by providing expertise, resources, and industry connections. Because JETRO is an independent agency of the Japanese government, we are able to provide many of our services for free.

MCGRAW HILL CONSTRUCTION DODGE (Houston Plan Rooms)

MHC/Repro MAX - A&E/Division of Thomas Reprographics

ADDRESS: 10606 Hempstead Rd., #110, Houston, TX 77092, 713-316-9411; Fax: 713-316-9469

WEBSITE: www.Fwdodge.com/plans/planrooms.asp#x

- Dodge Reports - daily news service listing new construction information
- Dodge Plans - electronic delivery of plans and specifications
- Plan room to review plans and specifications - subscribers only
- Online plan room and construction statistics
- Daily construction information in print or online

SERVICES COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION (SCA)

C. Dean Kring, Executive Director and Director of Research

9600 Long Point, Suite 150; Houston, TX 77055-4266; 713-932-7495 (ext. 13); Fax: 713-932-7498

WEBSITE: www.servicesca.org

EMAIL: service@servicesca.org

- Conducts Business Building Breakfast every Wednesday for emerging business owners
- Sponsors the oldest small business incubator in Texas and the Women's Business Center, which provide the resources, environment, and methodology to accelerate business growth
- Incubator Development Program- companies have a mentor, an advisory board, office space, computer, website, assistance with the business plan, marketing strategy, and instruction in personal selling skills in an increased contact base.
- Conducts annual trade fairs in the spring and fall, entrepreneurial workshop in July, and the Houston Economic Forecast in January
- Assists companies past the start-up stage in marketing, operations, administration, and finance

SERVICE CORPS OF RETIRED EXECUTIVES- CHAPTER 37 (SCORE)

Beth Shapiro, Chairperson

ADDRESS: 8701 S Gessner, # 1200; Houston, TX 77074-1591; 713-773-6565; Fax: 713-773-6551

WEBSITE: www.scorehouston.org

EMAIL: score37@scorehouston.org

- Free and individual business counseling tailored to meet the needs and objectives of small businesses
- Seminars on "Starting and Running Your Own Business" (Saturdays and Wednesdays)
- Workshops on "Business Plans," "Marketing," and "Cash Management and Record Keeping"
- Business Information Center (BIC) equipped with computers, a resource library with complete information on several hundred business types and reference books
- Outreach activity through use of Field Visit and Speakers Bureau Committee
- Other Houston office locations at: Palm Center; 5330 Griggs Road; 713-845-2424 and One Stop Business Center – City Hall Annex; 900 Bagby St.; 832-393-0954

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA) 8(A) BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Cleveland Baker, Marketing Coordinator

ADDRESS: 8701 S. Gessner, #1200; Houston, TX 77074-1591; 713-773-6500; Fax: 713-773-6551

WEBSITE: www.sba.gov

EMAIL: cleveland.baker@sba.gov

- Bonding (The SBA guarantees surety companies against a percentage of losses sustained on contracts up to 1.25 million dollars in face value.)

TEXAS BUSINESS ALLIANCE

Jeffrey Boney, President

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 300512, Houston, TX 77230; 713-738-7578

WEBSITE: www.texasbusinessalliance.org

EMAIL: jboney1@texasbusinessalliance.org

The TBA expands minority- and women-owned businesses, and encourages youth entrepreneurship. TBA equips businesses to be qualified suppliers, ready to compete for public, private and international opportunities through progressive development and training. MWBE membership-based, solutions oriented, small business development organization. Educational model - to create a pipeline of qualified MWBEs that can be leveraged locally, regionally, nationally and internationally by TBA chapter networks other organizations. Services:

- Annual State of the Houston Small Business Economy Meeting
- Business Enterprise Academy™ Small Business Six-Month Incubator Program
- One Woman™ National Two-Day Women's Business Conference
- The 'Prime' Objective™ Joint Venture Partnership Program
- Community Collaboratives, Capital Connections™
- Youth Entrepreneurship Academy™
- International Development Initiative
- New member Business Assessment Readiness Evaluation upon joining
- Access to our members' only web page with TBA member directory, bid opportunities and resources
- Qualified supplier Web profiles for viewing by procurement agencies and buyers

TEXAS MANUFACTURING ASSISTANCE CENTER (TMAC)

ADDRESS: U of H, 815 TMAC Building; Houston, TX 77204-6023; 832-842-7043; Fax 713-747-4205

WEBSITE: www.tmacgc.org

- Provides training and technical assistance to Texas manufacturers through 7 regional offices, including one at the University of Houston, which serves the Gulf Coast region.
- Focus areas include lean manufacturing and lean office principles, strategic management, quality systems, environment and safety.

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER (EDC)

Texas Southern University, School of Business

Ella M. Nunn, Director

ADDRESS: 3100 Cleburne Ave., #151; Houston, TX 77004; 713-313-7220; Fax: 713-313-7851

WEBSITE: www.tsu.edu/academics/business

EMAIL: nunn_em@tsu.edu

- GED training, remedial education, and jobs skills training for individuals
- Education and training workshops/seminars for existing or potential business owners; one-on-one technical assistance in business development for business start-ups and expansions.
- Limited technical assistance and information to community-based organizations
- Limited small business marketing and feasibility studies
- Promotes small and minority business development
- Partnerships or collaborations for economic development projects, and with faith-based organizations

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (UHSBDC)

Mike Young, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 2302 Fannin, Suite 200; Houston, TX 77002; 713-752-8444; Fax: 713-756-1500

WEBSITE: www.sbdcnetwork.uh.edu

Houston Metropolitan Center

Roberta Skebo, Director; 713-752-8400

- Free business consulting for small businesses, including: business planning, marketing, loan packaging, and financing
- Comprehensive business library and bilingual consulting

International Trade Center

Carmen Strong, Director; 713-752-8404

- Free international business consulting, including the evaluation of export potential, market research, selection of distribution networks, and exporting logistics

Procurement Technical Assistance Center

Jacqueline Taylor, Associate Region Director; 713-752-8473

- Free consulting, including: the development of government markets and assistance with bid packages and proposals for local, state, and federal opportunities
- Assistance with contract specifications, quality control, and cost accounting standards
- Library with government contract specifications

Training Center

Jacqueline Taylor, Associate Region Director; 713-752-8473

- Low-cost workshops and seminars covering a wide range of business skills, including: management, computers, finance, marketing, manufacturing, and basics of starting a business

Direct Business Assistance (DBA) Program

Roberta Skebo, Director; 713-752-8400

- Referral service providing reduced-fee business professionals, including: attorneys and CPAs

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

ACCION TEXAS

Shirley Brooks, Regional Director

ADDRESS: 7100 Regency Square, Suite 103, Houston, TX 77036, 1-866-312-3774 (TF)

WEBSITE: www.acciontexas.org

EMAIL: sbrooks@acciontexas.org

ACCION Texas is a 501(c) 3 non-profit loan fund whose mission is to provide loans to small business owners lacking access to commercial credit. ACCION Texas makes business loans that help micro entrepreneurs strengthen their businesses, stabilize their incomes, create additional employment, and contribute to the economic revitalization of their communities. Call for details and to apply.

- Individual business loans from \$500 to \$50,000
- Business lines of credit from \$5,000 to \$25,000 (need two years financial history)
- Credit start-up loans: Obtain a \$500 loan to establish your first trade line of credit history
- Financial literacy training

CITY OF HOUSTON - HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Richard Celli, Director

ADDRESS: 601 Sawyer Street, 4th floor; Houston, TX 77007; 713-868-8305; Fax: 713-865-4135

WEBSITE: www.houstonTX.gov/housing/index.html

EMAIL: housingdirector@cityofhouston.net

Information on tax exempt bond financing for educational facilities, health facilities, and industrial developments. Also provides financing for affordable housing developments. Call for active programs and requirements.

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

James Walsh, Loan Specialist

ADDRESS: 3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120; Houston, TX 77027; 713-499-6675; Fax: 713-993-4503

WEBSITE: www.h-gac.com

Administers the SBA 504 program, with 504 loans up to \$2 million

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Economic Development Bank

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 12428; Austin, TX 78711; 512-463-2000; Fax: 512-463-1849

WEBSITE: www.governor.state.TX.us/ecodev/

Texas Enterprise Zone Program

- The Texas Enterprise Zone program is an economic development tool for local communities to partner with the State of Texas to encourage job creation and/or retention and capital investment in economically distressed areas of the state
- Local and state incentives may be provided to qualified businesses that are designated Texas Enterprise Projects

- Projects may be physically located in or outside of an Enterprise Zone
- If located within a zone, the qualified business commits that 25% of their new employees will meet economically disadvantaged or enterprise zone residency requirements
- If located outside of a zone, the qualified business commits that 35% of their new employees will meet economically disadvantaged or enterprise zone residency requirements.

Texas Leverage Fund Program (TLF)

- TLF provides an additional source of financing to communities that have adopted the 4A/4B economic development sales tax
- Communities may leverage their future sales tax revenues to support job creation and retention efforts
- Available for interim, long-term, or gap financing, the TLF provides flexible terms to match the unique needs of communities, with maturities of up to 15 years
- A maximum loan amount of \$5 million

State of Texas Industrial Revenue Bond Program

- The Development Corporation Act allows cities, counties, conservation, and reclamation districts to form non profit industrial development corporations or authorities on their behalf. The purpose is to issue taxable and tax-exempt bonds for eligible projects in the state.

Texas Linked Deposit Program

- Established to encourage lending to historically underutilized businesses, child-care providers, non-profit corporations, and/or small or medium-sized businesses located in an Enterprise Zone

Texas Industry Development Loan Program

- The Texas Small Business Industrial Development Corporation, otherwise known as the Texas Industry Development (TID) Loan Program, provides capital to Texas communities and eligible 501-(C)-3 corporations at favorable market rates
- The program supports eligible tax exempt public purpose projects that stimulate economic development within the community
- The loans are available with low cost variable rate long term financing with the term of the loan not extending beyond the useful life of the assets and up to bond maturity in 2025.

Product Development Program and Small Business Incubator Loan Programs

- The purpose of the Product Development Fund is to provide financing to aid in the development and production, including the commercialization of new or improved products in Texas
- The Small Business Incubator Loan Program provides financing to foster and stimulate the development of Texas businesses
- Statutory preference is given to products or businesses in the areas of semiconductors, nanotechnology, biotechnology, and biomedicine that have the greatest likelihood of commercial success, job creation and job retention in Texas.

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM (SBIR- C/O US SBA)

Manuel Gonzalez, District Director

ADDRESS: 8701 S. Gessner, #1200; Houston, TX 77074-1591; 713-773-6500; Fax: 713-773-6550

WEBSITE: www.sba.gov/sbir

Provides federally-funded grants to businesses involved in high-tech innovation research and development operations. Grants of \$50,000 and more are available in a three phase funding cycle. To get on the mailing list, call (202) 205-6450 or see the SBA website under SBIR on the Internet.

Phase I is the start-up phase. Awards (up to \$100,000 for approximately 6 months) support exploration of the technical merit or feasibility of an idea or technology.

Phase II awards (up to \$750,000 for as long as 2 years) expand Phase I results. During this time, the R&D work is performed and the developer evaluates commercialization potential. Only Phase I award winners are considered for Phase II.

Phase III is the period during which Phase II innovation moves from the laboratory into the marketplace. No SBIR funds support this phase. The small business must find funding in the private sector or other non-SBIR federal agency funding.

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION 7(A) LOAN PROGRAM

ADDRESS: 8701 S. Gessner, #1200; Houston, TX 77074-1591; 713-773-6500; Fax: 713-773-6550

WEBSITE: www.sba.gov or www.pro-net.sba.gov

- Guarantees up to 85% of amount provided by commercial lenders on loans up to \$150,000
- Loans over \$150,000 receive a 75% guarantee
- Uses include debt refinancing, land, building, equipment, and working capital
- No minimum guarantee; Maximum guarantee of \$1 million
- Low Documentation Loan Program (“Low-Doc”) (up to \$150,000) for new and emerging businesses
- Bonding (The SBA guarantees surety companies against a percentage of losses sustained as a result of a contractor’s default on a guaranteed bid, payment, or performance bond.)

CHAMBERS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

ACRES HOME CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Roy Douglas Malonson, Chairman/CEO

ADDRESS: 6130 Wheatley Street; Houston, TX 77091-3947; 713-692-7003; Fax: 713-691-7131

WEBSITE: www.aaccghchamber.com

EMAIL: info@acreshomechamber.com

- Promotes the growth and expansion of small business enterprises
- Hosts Annual Juneteenth Zydeco and Blues Festival and Annual Awards Banquet
- Supports Center for Business and Economic Development
- Provide business counseling, assistance and referrals
- Publishes Annual Business Directory and Community Resource Guide
- Provides weekly computer literacy, small business & accounting workshops & seminars
- Provides monthly networking lunch meetings, the first Thursday of each month

AMERICAN INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF TEXAS

Diana Woodward, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 101 Summit Ave, Suite 401, Fort Worth, TX 76102; 817-429-2323; Fax: 817-451-3575

WEBSITE: www.aicct.com

EMAIL: dwoodward@aicct.com

- Quarterly newsletter
- Promotes economic development through seminars on certifications, business startup and development, legal and tax issues, and genealogy
- Sponsors networking opportunities and trade shows
- Promotes civic development through scholarship program, annual awards banquet and sponsorship of Native American Art show and community day
- Distributes American Indian Business Directory

ASIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Rogene Gee Calvert, President

ADDRESS: 6833 W. Sam Houston Pkwy, #206; Houston, TX. 77072
713-782-7222; Fax: 713-782-8676

WEBSITE: www.Asianchamber-hou.org

EMAIL: rogecalvert@asianchamber-hou.org

- Monthly business luncheons and networking, the second Wednesday of each month
- Quarterly mixer with other business organizations
- Trade mission
- Annual membership directory, Seminars, Newsletter
- Annual Entrepreneur Awards Gala and Golf Tournament

CAMARA DE EMPRESARIOS LATINOS DE HOUSTON

Anibal Alvarado , President

ADDRESS : 4500 Bissonnet , Suite 365 ; Bellaire, TX 77401; 713-774-5002; Fax : 713-774-1534

WEBSITE : www.empresarioslatinos.org

EMAIL: presidente@empresarioslatinos.org

- The promotion of your business between members of the organization
- Subscription to bi-monthly magazine "Empresarios"
- Opportunities to participate with the CELH committees
- Opportunities to register in the CELH "Merchant Referral Service"

COUNCIL OF ASIAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS

Glenda Joe, Communications Coordinator

ADDRESS: 1714 Tannehill Drive; Houston, TX 77008;
713-861-8270; Fax: 713-861-3450

Council of Asian American Organizations is a non-profit offering Asian ethnic resources, referral and cross-cultural technical assistance.

GREATER HOUSTON WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Suzan Deison, President

ADDRESS: 3015 Richmond Ave., #200, Houston, TX 77098; 713-782-3777; Fax: 713-781-4956

WEBSITE: www.greaterhoustonwomenschamber.org

EMAIL: sdeison@greaterhoustonwomenschamber.org

GREATER SOUTHWEST HOUSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Toni Franklin, President and CEO

ADDRESS: 6900 S. Rice Avenue; Bellaire, TX 77401; 713-666-1521; Fax: 713-666-1523

WEBSITE: www.gswbcc.org

- Monthly breakfast and luncheon meetings
- Annual membership directory and website with links to member businesses
- Business before and after-hours networking opportunities
- Business committees focused on various business issues
- Leadership 20/20 Program
- Golf tournament, arts and crafts festival, Hometown Heroes Luncheon, Women's Recognition Luncheon, Law Enforcement Recognition Banquet, Captain of Industry Luncheon, and other special activities

HOUSTON AREA URBAN LEAGUE, INC.

Judson Robinson III, President and CEO

Barbara Seymour, Chairman of the Board

ADDRESS: 1301 Texas Avenue; Houston, TX 77002; 713-393-8700; Fax: 713-393-8790

WEBSITE: www.haul.org

- Community Technology Center which offers comprehensive computer literacy training
- Education and Support Services - academic support/parental involvement, higher education, and youth leadership
- Housing and Community Services - housing counseling program and home buyer seminars
- Workforce, Economic Development and Training Department - employment orientation and assessment, life skills training, referral placement, Job Club, and AT&T Digital Campus, Professional training and development seminars
- Health initiatives - Diabetes Education and Prevention programs
- Technical Support for Small Businesses

HOUSTON CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Eric R. Lyons- President and CEO

ADDRESS: 2808 Wheeler Avenue; Houston, TX 77004; 713-522-9745; Fax: 713-522-5965

WEBSITE: www.hccoc.org

- History Preservation Initiative
- HCCC International Trade Development Program
- "Third-Tuesdays" Business Connections in partnership with D-MARS.com
- HCCC 32nd Annual Education Achievement Awards Reception
- AT&T Pinnacle Luncheon Series
- EmpowerWomen The Women-in-Business Development Initiative
- 14th Annual African American Business Achievement Pinnacle Awards

HOUSTON EAST END CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Diane Lipton, President

ADDRESS: 550 Gulfgate center, Houston, TX 77004; 713-926-3305; Fax: 713-926-0960

WEBSITE: www.eecoc.org/

EMAIL: diane@eecoc.org

HOUSTON HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dr. Laura Murillo, President & CEO

ADDRESS: 1801 Main St., # 1075; Houston, TX 77002; 713-644-7070; Fax: 713-644-7377

WEBSITE: www.houstonhispanicchamber.com

- Membership open to any business concerned with Hispanic economic development
- Networking events: breakfasts, luncheons, awards banquet, after hours mixers, etc.
- Workshops and educational seminars focusing on business management development
- Managerial and technical assistance in domestic and international business

HOUSTON INTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Charles H. Weiss, President and CEO

ADDRESS: 3000 Richmond Ave., #150; Houston, TX 77098; 713-524-1739; Fax: 713-524-1297

WEBSITE: www.houston-intown.com

- Chamber luncheons – Bi-monthly, Networking breakfasts – Monthly
- Quarterly Intown Marketing Network
- Monthly *Houston Intown* publication, advertising opportunities
- Liaison with governmental agencies
- Professional Development opportunities
- Community outreach and development
- Fast Forward Young Professionals Mixer-Monthly

HOUSTON WEST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Jeannie M. Bollinger, President and CEO

ADDRESS: 10370 Richmond Ave, Suite 125; 713-785-4922; Fax 713-785-4944

WEBSITE: www.hwccoc.org

- Membership open to any business on Houston's Westside
- Monthly networking breakfasts and luncheon
- Networking Nights - Advertising Opportunities
- Seminars, workshops, and business-to-business referrals
- Golf tournament, Business/International Expo, and Health Initiatives / Health Fair
- Economic Development Star Awards luncheon
- Governmental Affairs and Teacher of the Year luncheons

INDO AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GREATER HOUSTON

Jagdip Ahluwalia, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 1535 W. Loop S, #200; Houston, TX 77027; 713-624-7131; Fax: 713-624-7132

WEBSITE: www.iaccgh.com

EMAIL: info@iaccgh.com

- Quarterly Business/Networking Luncheons and Periodic Networking Mixers
- Bi-lateral Trade Missions with India-incoming and outgoing
- Annual Golf Tournament and Awards Gala
- Seminars and workshops focused on economic development and small business assistance.
- Membership open to any business, organization or professional organization.

LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS (LULAC - DISTRICT 8)

Francisco Rodriguez, District Director

Herlinda Garcia, Deputy District Director

ADDRESS: 5207 Airline Drive, Suite 102; Houston, TX 77022; 713-695-5980; Fax: 713-697-1012

WEBSITE: www.lulac8.org
EMAIL: d8mgr@lulac.org

LULAC is the largest and oldest Hispanic Organization in the United States. LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs operating at more than 700 LULAC councils nationwide. The organization involves and serves all Hispanic nationality groups.

N.A.A.C.P. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Carol Mims Galloway, President

ADDRESS: 2002 Wheeler Avenue; Houston, TX 77004; 713-526-3389; Fax: 713-630-2699

WEBSITE: www.naacphouston.org

- Workshops and seminars for minority businesses (business start-up, marketing, and government contracting)
- Annual campaign to support, strengthen, and increase minority businesses

NATIVE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Carroll Griffin Cocchia, President/Founder

ADDRESS: 7457 Harwin, Suite 307; Houston, TX 77036; 832-251-6367; Fax: 832-251-6312

WEBSITE: www.namcham.org

EMAIL: cocchia1@sbcglobal.net

- Monthly newsletter and American Indian Business Directory
- Educational and cultural programs
- Assists in American Indian business development and growth
- Major corporate partnership and participation
- Annual Corporate and Small Business Awards Gala
- Committees addressing mentoring, global diversity, internship, recruitment, bids, proposals, and member needs assessments
- Mediation between Indian Nations and the cooperate community, regarding employment, tribal councils, and protocol

OCA-GREATER HOUSTON CHAPTER (OCA-GH)

ADDRESS: 9800 Town Park #142; Houston, TX 77036; 281-822-0261; Fax: 281-822-0262

WEBSITE: www.ocahouston.org

EMAIL: info@ocahouston.org

OCA is an organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States. As an organization of community advocates, OCA's goals are:

- Membership open to any individual, business, or organization concerned with Asian Pacific American (APA) related issues
- Quarterly workshops/seminars for economic development on certifications, government contracting, employee/labor and/or legal issues
- Publishes APA Community Resource Guide and APA Pro-Bono Legal Resource Directory
- Annual "They Serve With Honor" Outstanding Community Leader & APA Employee Achievement Awards Reception, Charity Casino & Auction in Sept.
- Annual General Membership & Elections Dinner in Nov.
- Periodic APA Community Networking Mixers and Professional Development opportunities
- Information and referral service to appropriate agencies
- Community outreach, education and development
- Quarterly 4a Magazine publication with Advertising opportunities
- Hosts Annual Houston APA Film Festival
- Annual Internship opportunities for students
- Founding Member of the Greater Houston Coalition For Justice (GHCFJ)
- Founding Member of The Information Group for Asian American Rights (TIGAAR)

TRI-COUNTY BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Leondria Thompson, CEO

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 88376; Houston, Texas 77288; 832-875-3977; Fax: 713-839-7329

WEBSITE: www.tricountyblackchamber.org

- Membership open to any individual, organization, or business owner concerned with the business development and growth of African American businesses.
- Serves Fort Bend, Harris, & Galveston counties.
- Monthly membership meetings and orientation- the 3rd Thursday of each month.
- Annual Gold Cup Classic Golf Tournament, Banquet and Silent Auction, Annual Membership Conference.
- Active trade missions that provide business owners an opportunity to network and develop commercial relationships with potential partners in targeted countries.
- Business to business referrals.
- Technical assistance; educational seminars and workshops; networking events.
- Assistance with local, state, and federal certifications.

WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF TEXAS

Sandra White, CFP, Regional Coordinator

ADDRESS: 1225 N. Loop W., #1030; Houston, TX 77008; 713-869-1144; Fax: 713-868-3101

WEBSITE: www.womenschambertexas.com

EMAIL: houston@womenschambertexas.com

Focus: women's issues in commerce

- Networking functions, Business referrals and job leads
- MAPcom: Money and Power Conference
- Luncheon every fourth Tuesday of the month, Annual conference in the fall

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

ALLIANCE OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS OF HOUSTON (AMCH)

Eugene Herrera, President

Gilbert De La Cruz, Chairman

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 920859; Houston, TX 77008; 713-802-4145; Fax: 713-863-8522

WEBSITE: www.amchouston.org

EMAIL: gdelacruz@trevinogroup.com

- Promote contracting opportunities
- Monthly meetings with guest speakers and educational presenters (3rd Thursday of each month) HCCS Elgin at Main, free parking
- Monthly networking activities and supplier/service provider presentation
- Information sources for contractors

ASIAN AMERICAN ENGINEERS/ARCHITECTS

Jim Palavan, PE., President

Katharine E. Yount, Marketing Coordinator; 713-861-7068; Fax: 713-861-4131

WEBSITE: www.aaea-houston.org/

EMAIL: MRUEDA@LANDTECH-INC.COM

- Referrals
- Bi-monthly dinner and networking meeting

ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS OF GREATER HOUSTON (ABC)

Russell Hamley, President

ADDRESS: 3910 Kirby, Suite 131; Houston, TX 77098; 713-523-6222; Fax: 713-874-0747

WEBSITE: www.abchouston.org

EMAIL: Russell@agchouston.org

- Monthly networking opportunities
- Construction and Maintenance Education programs
- Managerial Education
- Online Nationwide Construction referral service
- Contractor Insurance Program
- Offers Commercial and Industrial Construction Information Resources including Bi-monthly Construction Magazine, Online Plan Room Reports, Virtual Plan Room and informative website.
- Full Service Plans Room with copying services
- Safety Training

ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA, INC. (AGC) (HOUSTON CHAPTER)

Jerry Nevlud, President

ADDRESS: 3825 Dacoma; Houston, TX 77092-8717; 713-843-3700; Fax: 713-843-3777

WEBSITE: www.agchouston.org

EMAIL: jerry.n@agchouston.org

- Fax, e-mail bulletins three times/week; daily website updates of construction projects out for bid; contract awards and lows, etc.
- Help with public and employee relations
- Use of plan room - blueprints available on jobs out for bid including all City, County, State, Fed projects and other private commercial projects
- Online project information using iSqFt technology
- Special membership for M/WBE, emerging firms, start-up businesses

ASSOCIATION OF BLACK CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS

Peter Jordan, President

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 771992, Houston Texas 77215; 713-988-0145; Fax: 713-988-4624

WEBSITE: www.abcea.org/pages/members.asp

EMAIL: info@abce.org

- Promotes excellence in engineering and architecture
- Promotes increased opportunities for Black engineering and architectural firms
- Networking activities
- Monthly meetings first Tuesday of each month with guest speakers
- Influences policies to increase opportunities in the public and private sectors

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS (HOUSTON CHAPTER)

ADDRESS: 500 Lovett, Suite 500; Houston, TX 77006; 713-524-6766; Fax: 713-524-4322

WEBSITE: www.namc-houston.org

EMAIL: egoodie@namc-houston.org

- Selected bid specifications for review (City, County, and HISD)
- Promotes increased opportunities for minority contractors and suppliers
- Monthly meetings with guest speakers
- Networking activities

HISPANIC CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION - GREATER HOUSTON AREA, INC.

Randy Magdeleno, Chairman

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 111456, Houston Texas 77215; 713-699-2732; Fax: 713-695-1556

WEBSITE: none

EMAIL: randymagdaleno@yahoo.com

- Networking activities for Hispanic-owned businesses and contractors
- National, state, and local affiliates
- Monthly meetings, third Saturday of every month with guest speakers
- Call for additional information.

GREATER HOUSTON BUSINESS PROCUREMENT FORUM

Hugh Xiao

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 273; 1707 Post Oak Road; Houston, TX. 77056; 713-644-0821 (ext. 1229)

WEBSITE: www.houstonbiz.org

- Sponsors Greater Houston Business Procurement Forum meetings every third Tuesday of each month. Networking opportunities for small suppliers.

HOUSTON CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (HCA)

ADDRESS: 4001 Sherwood Lane; Houston, TX. 77092; Ph: 713-349-9434; Fax: 713-349-9435

WEBSITE: www.houstoncontractors.org

EMAIL: E-mail: info@houstoncontractors.org

The Houston Contractors Association (HCA) has grown into the preeminent organization representing civil construction companies in the greater Houston area. Call or write for membership details, eligibility and benefits.

HOUSTON COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES, INC.

Jack Miller, President

Christina M. Lindsay, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 2180 North Loop West , #221; Houston, TX. 77018; 713-426-0800; Fax: 713-426-0801

WEBSITE: www.houstoncec.org

EMAIL: chris@houstoncec.org

- Promotes capital improvement projects throughout the City of Houston, Harris County, and surrounding municipalities and counties
- Technical review of the Harris County Flood Control District Design Criteria Manual, Harris County Design Standards, and City of Houston Design Manual
- Pursuit of cost-effective, quality-based selection processes by public agencies

HOUSTON HISPANIC ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS (HHAЕ)

Bob Arroyave, P.E., President

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 421372, Houston, TX. 77042; Ph. 713-558-8700

WEBSITE: www.hhae.org

EMAIL: info@hhae.org

HHAЕ mission is to enhance the architectural and engineering profession by uniting in fellowship the architects and engineers of the greater Houston area; to promote economic growth among our members; to enrich them with scientific and technological developments; and to provide services and contribution towards the cultural endowment of our community.

- Focus: design services and ways Hispanic businesses can collaborate to complete projects
- Monthly meetings
- Hosts potential clients to allow individuals to directly market themselves
- Career guidance for young Hispanics and promotes economic growth among the members
- Scholarships and mentorship

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS (HOUSTON CHAPTER)

Darrvl Samuels, Executive Director

ADDRESS: 3825 Dacoma, Houston Texas 77092 Ph. 713-870-2459; Fax 713-838-0693

WEBSITE: www.namctexas.com

EMAIL: dsamuels@namctexas.com

- Promote the economic and legal interest of minority contracting firms.
- Advocate law and government actions, which meet the concerns of minority contractors.
- More equitable and wider procurement and business opportunities for minority contractors.
- Reduce and remove the barriers to full equality, which confront minority contractors.
- Build bridges between minority contractors and the parties and entities with which they must work.
- Provide education and training to minority contractors in construction.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION (NAWIC)

Sandy Field, President

ADDRESS: 7701 W Little York, Ste. 400 Houston TX 77040; 713-681-8500; Fax: 713-681-9990

WEBSITE: www.nawichouston.org/

EMAIL: sfield@cadencemcshane.com

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS (NAWBO) (HOUSTON CHAPTER)

Marla Regan, Administrative Director

ADDRESS: 6124 Highway 6 North, #118; Houston, TX 77084; 281-682-0127

WEBSITE: www.nawbohouston.org

EMAIL: info@nawbohouston.org

- The Houston Chapter of NAWBO is dedicated to the promotion of the interests of women business owners (also open to non-business owners).
- Monthly luncheon with networking and educational or motivational speakers

WOMEN CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (HOUSTON CHAPTER)

Valerie Delafosse , Executive Director

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 6757; Houston, TX 77265; 713-807-9977; Fax: 713-807-9917

WEBSITE: www.womencontractors.org

EMAIL: director@womencontractors.org

- Women assisting women in achieving success in the construction industry
- Monthly meetings with networking and educational speakers

RESOURCES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

GULF COAST COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Norma Moreno, Economic Empowerment Administrator

ADDRESS: 5000 Gulf Fwy., Bldg#1, Houston, Texas 77023; 713-393-4700; Fax: 713-393-4751

WEBSITE: www.gccsa.org

Gulf Coast Community Services Association (GCCSA) is Texas' largest Community Action Agency and provides a wide-ranging set of community services to income-eligible families and individuals. They offer the Individual Development Account (IDA) and contribute matching funds for educational expenses, to start a business or to purchase or renovate a home. All participants must attend Budget Counseling Classes.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF ASSISTIVE AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

ADDRESS: 6220 Westpark, #110, Houston, Texas 77057; 713-267-8510

WEBSITE: www.dars.state.TX.us/

The DARS Division for Rehabilitation Services is the state's principal authority on the vocational rehabilitation, except persons with visual impairments and the legally blind. The Division's main purpose is to assist people with disabilities to participate in their communities by achieving employment of choice, living as independently as possible and accessing high quality services.

DISABILITY AND BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER SOUTHWEST ADA CENTER

ADDRESS: 2323 S. Shepherd, #1000, Houston, TX. 77019; 713-520-0232; Fax 713-520-5785

WEBSITE: www.sedbtac.org

EMAIL: swdbtac@ilru.org

The DBTAC: Southeast ADA Center (Southeast DBTAC) is one of ten regional DBTAC: ADA Centers funded by NIDRR to provide information, training, and technical assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and to promote the use of accessible technology. **All requests for information via phone or submitted online are strictly confidential.**

ADVOCACY, INC.

Karen Stanfill, Client Assistance Program (CAP)

ADDRESS: 7800 Shoal Creek Blvd. #171-E, Austin, TX 78757-1024,
512-454-4816 (V/TDD); 512-323-0902 (Fax); 1-800-252-9108 (V/TDD)

WEBSITE: www.advocacyinc.org

EMAIL: infoai@advocacyinc.org

The Client Assistance Program (CAP) assists people with disabilities in getting information about and accessing services from state vocational rehabilitation agencies. Advocacy, Inc. works to improve employment opportunities for people with disabilities. This work includes, among other things: helping people get needed services from vocational rehabilitation programs; helping people with the Social Security Administration's "Ticket to Work" program; and making sure that employers do not discriminate because of a person's disability.

BEYOND CAREERS, INC.

ADDRESS: 12231 Sandpiper Dr., Houston, TX 77035; 713-729-0396

WEBSITE: www.beyondcareers.org

EMAIL: beyondcareers05@sbcglobal.net

Beyond Careers provides financial literacy training workshops to help people with disabilities and low-to-moderate income (LMI) families obtain the tools to help build wealth. In addition, the career/entrepreneur training workshops will be invaluable in providing the technical skills needed to write a successful business plan.

MAYORS OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (MOPD)

Jeff Anderson, Executive Director

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1562, Houston, TX. 77251; PHONE: 713.803.1075; TTY: 713.837.9040

WEBSITE: www.houstonTX.gov/disabilities/index.html

EMAIL: mopdmail@cityofhouston.net

The primary mission of this office is to make Houston the most accessible city in the nation by working to remove physical and attitudinal barriers at all levels of City government and throughout the greater Houston community. The MOPD facilitates delivery of services - including city services, acts as liaison to Houston Commission on Disabilities (HCoD), City Council and other City Departments, makes recommendations to public and private entities regarding the development of policy and legislation, and establishes fundamental local, state and national partnerships to promote community awareness.

WWW.RECOVERY.GOV OPPORTUNITIES

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act represents a strategic -- and significant -- investment in our country's future. The Act will save and create three to four million jobs, 90 percent of them in the private sector. It will provide more than \$150 billion to low-income and vulnerable households -- spurring increased economic activity that will save and create more than one million jobs.

These measures are necessary to help the millions of families whose lives have been upended by the economic crisis. But, this Act will do more than provide short-term stimulus. By modernizing our health care, improving our schools, modernizing our infrastructure, and investing in the clean energy technologies of the future, the Act will lay the foundation for a robust and sustainable 21st century economy.

**CONTACT PERSONS FOR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS (RFPS)
AND REQUESTS FOR QULIFICATIONS (RFQS)**

CITY OF HOUSTON

BUILDING SERVICES Professional Services	Wendy Heger	832-393-1681
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	Annabelle Chen	713-837-9651
FIRE Professional Services/High Tech	Carmen Gordon	713-247-5054
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Professional Services High Tech	Joseph Badell Vernon Hunt	713-794-9325 713-794-9955
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Mary Robinson	713- 868-8446
HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM MIS Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Civil Property Procurement Technical Services	Frank Haley Frank Crouch Adil Godiwalla Randy Goodman Rick Hrachovy Dallas Evans	281-233-1835 281-233-1963 281-230-1934 281-233-1822 281-230-8002 281-230-8001
PARKS AND RECREATION Purchasing and Procurement	Maria Rodriguez	713-845-1118
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT Purchasing and Procurement, GIS	Kathryn Morgan	713-837-7943
POLICE Professional Services	Teresa Clark	713-308-1784
PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING	David Guernsey Jerry Roberts	713-238-5241 713-238-5271
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	Jose Garza	713-699-7945

THE SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE IS UPDATED SEMI-ANNUALLY. WE STRIVE TO MAKE THIS DOCUMENT AS ACCURATE AS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER IN THE EVENT OF ERRORS OR OMISSIONS PLEASE BRING THEM TO OUR ATTENTION.

FAX or email changes or suggestions to: 832-393-0952, or email us at:
onestopbusinesscenter@cityofhouston.net