

## **Resources for Diverse Suppliers Certification and Technical Assistance**

### **Commitment to Diversity and Nondiscrimination**

Children's Mercy is committed to providing equitable and exceptional healthcare for our community and being an inclusive and diverse workforce. CMH seeks a diversity of suppliers including, but not limited to, businesses owned by women, people of color, veterans, and/or LGBTQ. We seek business partners who have deep respect for and demonstrated expertise in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion practices within the communities we represent and serve.

Children's Mercy is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) organization which does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, marital status, national origin, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability in consideration for a contract award.

### **Why Children's Mercy supports doing business with Diverse Suppliers**

Many corporations spend millions of dollars a year on goods and services. Yet historically, women-owned business enterprises (WBEs) and minority-owned business enterprises (MBEs) have been left behind in terms of securing supplier contracts with large organizations. In response, many organizations like Children's Mercy, have developed supplier diversity programs to promote access for small businesses. Today, some companies are going beyond MBEs and WBEs by also considering LGBT-owned business and veteran-owned businesses in their procurement process. As these programs develop and mature, many organizations are realizing that maintaining diverse suppliers can also help the company improve its bottom line in countless ways. Additionally, government and nonprofit groups are increasingly monitoring the percentage and of contracts awarded to minority- and women-owned firms. U.S. laws give corporations major incentives to use small business suppliers when contracting with US federal, state, or public agencies.

Growing a diverse supplier base only makes sense given the increasingly diverse markets that most companies serve in this global age. Partnering with a diverse range of suppliers to provide products and services that meet or exceed customer needs enables a company to serve its consumers to the best extent possible. Those companies that combine outstanding supplier diversity initiatives and outcomes with other best-in-class diversity and inclusion programs will maintain a competitive advantage, win new business, retain customers, and reinforce their brand around the world.<sup>i</sup>

### **Certification Information and Resources for Diverse Suppliers**

In order to register with Children's Mercy as a Diverse-owned supplier, we recognize the following diversity categories and respective local, regional or national certifications. Please refer to subsequent section on Technical Assistance and Resources for additional services and help on getting your business certified as a Diverse Vendor. The table is color coded by local, regional, and national organizations.

Type of Diverse Business	Certifications Recognized by Children’s Mercy
Minority-Owned Business	City of Kansas City, MO ( <b>local</b> ) Mountain Plains Minority Supplier Development Council ( <b>regional</b> ) National Minority Supplier Development Council ( <b>national</b> ) Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce ( <b>national</b> )
Women-Owned Business	City of Kansas City, MO ( <b>local</b> ) Women's Business Enterprise National Council ( <b>national</b> ) National Women Business Owners Corporation ( <b>national</b> ) Women Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program – Small Business Administration ( <b>national</b> )
Veteran-Owned/ Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business	Small Business Administration – Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Program ( <b>national</b> )
Disabled -Owned Business	Disability: In Greater Kansas City ( <b>local</b> ) US Business Leadership Network ( <b>national</b> )
LGBTQ - Owned Business	Mid-America LGBT Chamber ( <b>local/regional</b> ) National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce ( <b>national</b> )
Small Business, Small Disadvantaged Business, Hub-Zone Business	City of Kansas City, MO ( <b>local</b> ) Small Business Administration [8a, SDB, HUBZone] ( <b>national</b> )

Green = Local    Blue = regional    Red = National

### **Technical Assistance Resources in the Kansas City Community**

The following table offers local, regional, and national resources that offer support and technical assistance to small diverse-owned businesses to help walk through the certification process and in some cases offer grants to off-set the initial certification costs to the supplier.

## Local Resources

**Name:** City of Kansas City, MO

**Phone number:** (816) 513-1836

**Web site:** <https://www.jacksongov.org/1131/9669/MBEWBE-Program-FAQs>

**Description of Services:** The City of Kansas City offers a [monthly certification workshop](#) for those companies interested in becoming certified, contact the Human Relations Department at 816-513-1836 for information.

**Name:** Hispanic Economic Development Corporation

**Phone Number:** 816-221-3442

**Website:** [www.kchedc.org](http://www.kchedc.org)

**Description of Services:** KC HEDC provides business planning services and classes in both English and Spanish. KC HEDC also helps small businesses to navigate the MBE registration and certification process.

**Name:** Metropolitan Community Colleges Supplier Diversity Program

**Phone number:** Chris Kelly, 816.604.1106, [chris.kelly@mcckc.edu](mailto:chris.kelly@mcckc.edu)

**Web site:** <https://mcckc.edu/do-business-with-mcc/purchasing/supplier-diversity.aspx>

**Description of Services:** Opportunities for M/WBEs with training and education, mentoring, networking and other innovative development approaches.

**Name:** Disability: In Greater Kansas City (Local Business Leadership Network Affiliate)

**Phone Number:** 816-284-3224

**Website:** [www.disabilityin-gkc.org](http://www.disabilityin-gkc.org)

**Description of Services:** Disability: In GKC offers support and planning services for Disabled-Owned Businesses across the metro region. They are the local affiliate to the USBLN (described below) and can help local businesses pursue national certification.

## Regional Resources

**Name:** Mountain Plains Minority Supplier Development Council

**Phone number:** (303) 623-3037

**Web site:** <http://www.mpmisd.org/application/>

**Description of Services:** For ethnic minority-owned businesses looking to get certified as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE). Only applicants located in Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, or Nebraska will be considered for certification.

**Name:** State of Missouri

**Phone number:** (573) 751-8130

**Web site:** <https://oeo.mo.gov/mwbe-certifications/>

**Description of Services:** Certifies women and minority owned businesses and offers business development programs.

**Name:** State of Kansas

**Phone number:** (785) 296-3425

**Web site:** <https://www.kansascommerce.gov/programs-services/minority-women-business-development/kansas-statewide-certification-program/>

**Description of Services:** This office also administers the Kansas Statewide Certification Program, where women and minority businesses can be certified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), and Women Business Enterprise (WBE).

**Name:** Mid-America LGBT Chamber

**Phone number:** 816-474-3558

**Website:** <https://www.midamericalgbt.org/>

**Description of Services:** MALGBT Chamber provides networking opportunities, mentor programs and leadership development opportunities for LGBT owned businesses along with technical support to obtain national certification.

### National Resources

**Name:** National Minority Supplier Development Council

**Phone number:** (212) 944-2430

**Web site:** [www.NMSDC.org](http://www.NMSDC.org)

**Description of Services:** The National Minority Supplier Development Council advances business opportunities for certified minority business enterprises and connects them to corporate members.

**Name:** NWBOC – National Women Business Owners Corporation

**Phone number:** 800-794-6140, Closest office is located in Wichita, KS

**Web site:** <https://www.nwboc.org/apply.html>

**Description of Services:** NWBOC is the first national certifier of WBEs and provides national certification for women and veteran-owned companies.

**Name:** Women’s Business Enterprise National Council

**Phone number:** 202-872-5515

**Web site:** <https://www.wbenc.org/certification>

**Description of Services:** Certifying women owned businesses is the foundation of WBENC's mission, along with connecting WBENC-Certified Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs) with WBENC's Corporate Members to facilitate real time business opportunities and serving as a resource to offer training that helps the Corporate Member and the WBENC-Certified WBE grow their capacity.

**Name:** SBA Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business

**Phone Number:** 202-205-6773

**Website:** <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/service-disabled-veteran-owned-small-businesses-program>

**Description of Services:** The Small Business Administration offers educational services, business development support and technical assistance for disabled-veteran owned small business. Joining the disabled veterans’ business program makes your business eligible to compete for the program’s set-aside contracts.

**Name:** Vets First Verification

**Phone Number:** 202-632-9099 or [verificationcounselor@va.gov](mailto:verificationcounselor@va.gov)

**Website:** <https://www.va.gov/osdbu/verification/>

**Description of Services:** The Vets First program offers education and technical support to Veteran-owned small businesses to become eligible for verification for federal contracts.

**Name:** U.S. Women’s Chamber of Commerce  
**Phone Number:** (202) 607-2488  
**Website:** <https://uswcc.org/certification/>  
**Description of Services:** Services include business growth and strategy support, as suppliers to governments and large corporations in the United States and internationally. To assist these firms and provide strong market leadership, the U.S. Women’s Chamber of Commerce awards four highly regarded women-owned business certifications.

**Name:** U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Phone Number:** 202-366-4648  
**Website:** <https://www.transportation.gov/civil-rights/disadvantaged-business-enterprise>  
**Description of Services:** The Department's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program is designed to remedy ongoing discrimination and the continuing effects of past discrimination in federally-assisted highway, transit, airport, and highway safety financial assistance transportation contracting markets nationwide. The primary remedial goal and objective of the DBE program is to level the playing field by providing small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals a fair opportunity to compete for federally funded transportation contracts.

**Name:** Women Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program – Small Business Administration (SBA)  
**Contact info.:** [wosb@sba.gov](mailto:wosb@sba.gov)  
**Website:** <https://www.sba.gov/document/sba-form-2413-women-owned-small-business-wosb-program-certification>  
**Description of Services:** To help provide a level playing field for women business owners.

**Name:** US Business Leadership Network (USBLN) or Disability: In  
**Contact Info:** [info@disabilityIN.org](mailto:info@disabilityIN.org)  
**Website:** [www.usbln.org](http://www.usbln.org)  
**Description of Services:** USBLN certifies disability-owned business enterprises, including service-disabled veteran owned businesses, and link them to organizations seeking to diversify their supply chains.

**Name:** National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC)  
**Contact Info:** 202-234-9181 or [info@nglcc.org](mailto:info@nglcc.org)  
**Website:** [www.nglcc.org](http://www.nglcc.org)  
**Description of Services:** The NGLCC is the business voice of the LGBT community, the largest advocacy organization dedicated to expanding economic opportunities and advancements for LGBT people, and the exclusive certifying body for LGBT-owned businesses.

**Name:** Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce  
**Contact Info:**  
**Website:** [www.mbda.gov](http://www.mbda.gov)  
**Description of Services:** MBDA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce that promotes the growth of minority-owned businesses through the mobilization and advancement of public and private sector programs, policy, and research.

**Name:** Small Business Administration (8a, SDB, HUBZone)  
**Contact Info:** 202-205-6459  
**Website:** <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs>

**Description of Services:** The SBA provides several programs to help small businesses win federal contracts. Participating in these programs helps small businesses: Win a fair share of federal contracts, Qualify for exclusive set-aside and sole-source contracts, Partner with established contractors to win contracts and Get business mentoring and education to learn how federal contracting works

**Name:** Service Disabled Veterans Business Association

**Contact Info:** [sue.subgranon@sdvb.org](mailto:sue.subgranon@sdvb.org) or 301-942-2250

**Website:** <http://www.sdvb.org/>

**Description of Services:** To provide training and technical assistance to disabled veteran-owned businesses.

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<sup>i</sup> Supplier Diversity: Chapter 11, Diversity Best Practices, page 179