



# DBE Support Services

REGION B - BRIDGE CITY/NEW ORLEANS & HAMMOND

Urban League of Louisiana  
Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation

DOTD

## MONTHLY DIGEST

**Issue 43 | January 2024**

[www.urbanleaguelala.org/cei-dbeservices](http://www.urbanleaguelala.org/cei-dbeservices) | [dbesupport@urbanleaguelala.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguelala.org)

LADOTD Project  
Letting Information

Get LAUCP DBE  
Certified

ULLA Upcoming  
Events and Trainings

Urban League of Louisiana provides business support services to existing and aspiring DBEs that are interested in doing business with the LADOTD in Region B. Services include one-on-one business counseling, capacity-building coaching, contractor-specific and general entrepreneurship trainings, certification assistance, funding and bonding assistance, and access to LADOTD bid opportunities. For more information, please email [dbesupport@urbanleaguelala.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguelala.org).

*Upcoming Event*

**Opportunities Outlook Quarterly Convening for DBE Contractors**

**Thursday, January 25 | 9:00am - 12:00pm | ULLA HQ**

Join the Urban League of Louisiana on Thursday, January 25, 2024, 9:00am-12:00pm, for its signature **“Opportunities Outlook Quarterly Convening”**. These quarterly, in-person meet-ups feature procurement officers and/or prime contractors who will provide DBEs and other diverse businesses with updates on bid opportunities, as well as, required steps and best practices for doing business with their organizations. These events also provide an opportunity for more direct networking between DBEs and procurement officers and/or primes.



The event will take place at the Urban League of Louisiana, 4640 S. Carrollton Avenue, Suite 110. Breakfast will be provided. This quarter's featured speakers and organizations include:

- *Paula Roddy, DOTD Program Director, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development*
- *Lauren Marshall, Director of Diversity & Inclusion, Woodward Design + Build*
- *Jean-Marc Villain, System Director of Supplier Inclusion & Community, Ochsner Health*
- *Claire Thomas, Sr. Program Services Manager, ESG / Community Contracting, Vizient, Inc.*

There is no cost to attend, however, registration is required. Register today to reserve your spot!

[Click Here to](#)

**Resource Connections****Louisiana Housing Corporation Launches the Minority, Women, and Veteran-Owned Business Directory****Louisiana Housing**  
Corporation

In December, the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) announced the launch of a comprehensive online directory, aimed at increasing the material participation of minority, women, and veteran-owned

businesses in the LHC funded programs and to connect consumers with businesses committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

In a world that increasingly values diversity, LHC recognizes the vital contributions of minorities, women, and veteran entrepreneurs. The online Directory is a central hub, facilitating access to various businesses across various industries, fostering economic growth, and promoting a more inclusive marketplace.

These specific business owners can fill out a form online to join LHC's repository of Louisiana-based Minority, Women, and Veteran-Owned Businesses. The Directory will be a living online document, updating over time as LHC collects willing participants.

***To learn more about the LHC Minority, Women, and Veteran-Owned Businesses Directory. Please visit [www.lhc.la.gov/dbe](http://www.lhc.la.gov/dbe).***

***Bid Opportunities*****Woodward Design + Build: Ochsner Baptist MRI Expansion****CALLING ALL  
MBE FIRMS**

Invite to bid  
OCHSNER BAPTIST MRI  
EXPANSION  
New Orleans, LA

Bid Date:  
Friday, January 19, 2024  
2:00 PM

• Demolition	• Paint & Wall
• Structural Steel	• Coverings
• Millwork	• Mechanical
• Firestopping	• Fire Protection
• Metal Doors/ Frames	• Plumbing
• Gypsum Board	• Electrical
• Flooring	• Roofing
• Glazing	• Masonry
• Fences & Gates	• Concrete

Contact Lauren  
Marshall for more  
information

lmarshall@woodwarddesignbuild.com

[Click Here to Email Woodward Design +  
Build!](#)

***Growth Strategies*****Become an Energy Smart or Entergy Solutions Trade Ally!**

**EnergySmart**  
A New Orleans Program

**ENERGY SOLUTIONS**  
A LOUISIANA PROGRAM

Energy Smart (Orleans Parish) and Entergy Solutions (All Other Parishes in LA) are comprehensive energy efficiency programs that incentivize Entergy customers to perform energy saving upgrades in their homes and businesses. Our teams work with residents, business owners, facility managers and trade ally contractors to identify opportunities and provide cash incentives for completing eligible upgrades with measurable/verifiable energy savings.

#### **What is a trade ally?**

Trade allies are approved and trained contractors that influence the energy decisions of customers and facilitate participation in the Energy Smart and Entergy Solutions programs. Trade allies help customers implement energy efficiency upgrades and earn incentives for reducing their energy usage.

#### **What is the benefit of becoming a trade ally?**

Both programs work to connect customers with trade ally contractors to help them select and install energy efficient products that have verifiable energy savings for customers. Trade allies can leverage these cash incentives to gain new customers and maximize existing customer projects that reduce energy use.

#### **How are trade allies supported?**

The program provides technical assistance to trade allies and customers to identify energy efficiency opportunities, develop cost-effective projects and complete required program documentation. Trade allies are invited to participate in various training, development and networking opportunities provided by the program and its partners.

#### **For More Information**

- Orleans Parish: Kevin Fitzwilliam, Training and Workforce Development Specialist, Energy Smart Program - [kevin.fitzwilliam@aptim.com](mailto:kevin.fitzwilliam@aptim.com)
- All Other Parishes: Dillon Teal, Senior Energy Advisor, Entergy Solutions - [dillon.teal@aptim.com](mailto:dillon.teal@aptim.com)

[Learn More about the EnergySmart Trade Ally Program! \(Orleans Parish\)](#)

[Learn More about the Entergy Solutions Trade Ally Program! \(All Other Parishes\)](#)

[Click Here for All Upcoming ULLA Entrepreneurship Trainings](#)

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