

Ability360

Community Development Block Grant Home Modification Program

Minority Business Enterprises (MBE)/ Women Business Enterprises (WBE) Policy

Policy Goal

The policy goal of the MBE/WBE Policy is to assure that minority business enterprises (MBE) and woman business enterprises (WBE) are given the opportunity to participate in contract and procurement for supplies, construction, equipment and services under any Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies.

The Policy applies to all contracts/procurement for supplies, construction equipment and services under any CDBG home modification grant. Ability360 maintains an approved list of contractors to do the home modification work on our behalf. Outreach will be done to contractors, including to minority/ women owned contractors within the first 30 days of the contract year if additional contractors are needed.

A. Good Faith Efforts

The two affirmative steps are described and they represent good faith efforts to attract and utilize MBE/WBEs.

B. Documentation/Reporting

A fair share objective is a percentage based on the capacity and availability of qualified MBEs, and WBEs in the relevant geographic market for the procurement categories of construction, equipment, services and supplies compared to the number of all qualified entities in the same market for the same procurement categories.

Good Faith Efforts

Good faith efforts are activities used by Ability360 to increase MBE/WBE awareness of procurement opportunities through race/gender neutral efforts.

Ability360 offers the following examples to carry out the good faith efforts.

(1) Ensure MBE/WBEs are made aware of contracting opportunities to the fullest extent practicable through outreach and recruitment activities. For Indian Tribal, State and local Government recipients, this will include placing MBE/WBEs on solicitation lists and soliciting them whenever they are potential sources.

(a) Utilize other MBE/WBE listings such as those of the directory provided by the cities, State's Minority Business Office, the Small Business administration and the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) of the Department of

Commerce.

(2) Use the services and assistance of the SBA and the MBDA.

(a) Use the services of outreach programs sponsored by the MBDA and/or the SBA to recruit bona fide firms for placement on bidders list.

(b) Seek out Minority Business Development Centers (MBDCs) to assist in identifying MBE/WBEs for placement on bidders list.

Documentation/Reporting

Ability360 is required to maintain the records documenting compliance with requirements including documentation of its good faith efforts and data relied upon in formulating its fair share objectives.

In addition, Ability360, a recipient of Community Development Block Grant monies is required to create and maintain a contractor's bidders list. Such a list must only be kept until the grant project period has expired and Ability360 is no longer receiving CDBG funding under the grant.

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