

LED Business Development Roundtables

By Louisiana Economic Development

BATON ROUGE—The recruitment process has started for Louisiana Economic Development’s effective Small and Emerging Business Development Roundtables program, the innovative peer-to-peer learning program that brings small and emerging business leaders together for a yearlong experience of collaborative learning, problem solving, and professional development.

The program is based on the PeerSpectives™ Roundtable System developed by the Edward Lowe Foundation and considered a nationwide best practice. Participation is open to both current and prospective SEBD program participants. The roundtables convene in July and August; each cohort meets ten times throughout the year to explore best practices, share business challenges, and brainstorm solutions in a supportive environment.

“SEBD roundtables provide Louisiana’s strong small business community with the opportunity to collaborate and address the challenges that arise while starting and building a business,” LED

Secretary Don Pierson said. “The roundtable setting creates a space for entrepreneurs to strengthen leadership skills and grow their network. I encourage current SEBD participants and other small and emerging business owners to take full advantage.”

Through group discussions, small business leaders work collaboratively to enhance management skills, improve decision-making, and identify strengths and opportunities for improvement.

“The SEBD roundtable was such a great experience,” Safe Wash Solutions CEO Ciana McDaniel said. “The topics were on point with what business owners deal with and the speakers gave so much insight. We also had a great group of peers that shared their experiences and I will certainly miss every one of them.”

SEBD intermediaries across the state provide technical and managerial assistance through the program and are certified to ensure a consistent experience. Current and prospective SEBD program certified companies interested in taking part in the roundtables should contact the nearest SEBD intermediary listed below for details:



- Bayou Region Incubator, Thibodaux
- Microbusiness Enterprise Corporation of Ascension, Gonzales
- Propeller, New Orleans
- TruFund Financial Services, Baton Rouge

Small Business Exchange • Voice of Small, Emerging, Diversity-Owned Businesses Since 1984 [Click to read more](#)

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COMPANY PROFILE

Edwards Unlimited is an award-winning media production and leadership development business enterprise. Our company is dedicated to helping corporations, entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations celebrate their successes and share their vision with the world through high quality video production, media/ presentation training and strategic communications. President & CEO Janice Edwards is an award-winning talk show host, Emmy-nominated producer, co-author of the international best-seller *Step Into Your Brilliance*, an in-demand MC, and an acclaimed contributor to community empowerment through her media work.

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- Edwards Unlimited Legacy Interviews are 1080p or 4K video and/or audio recording with transcripts capturing family treasures as living historical documents.
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- These legacy interviews have created joy and happiness among family members and friends. They become a living record for loved ones in the future.

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SOUTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2023

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 9:30 am–10:30 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947>

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
Thursday, June 22, 2023, 12:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar
Thursday, June 29, 2023, 10:00 am–11:00 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Stephanie Workman, 478-919-7652, stephanie.workman@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government’s goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA’s Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The session will also include an overview of the self-certification process, as well as a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/federal-contracting-woman-owned-small-business-wosb-program-tickets-648588795547>

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.
is DBE certified by the Louisiana UCP.

