CAPITAL EXPENDITURES TO FEMALE-OWNED, MINORITY-OWNED, VETERAN-OWNED AND SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

Under the provisions of the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act (20 ILCS 3960/5.3 (b) (2)), **any hospital having more than 100 authorized beds, and having any capital expenditures in excess of $350,000 for the erection, building, alteration, reconstruction, modernization, improvement, extension, or demolition of or by the hospital,** is required to complete this section of the annual hospital questionnaire (items A through J). The hospital may include capital expenditures below the $350,000 threshold, if desired.

A health care system may develop a system-wide annual report that includes all hospitals in order to comply with this requirement. If the health care system chooses to report in this manner, please indicate the health care system as the reporting entity. The health care system shall use as much State-specific data as possible in this report. If State-specific data is not available, the health care system shall include national data and explain why State-specific data is not available, and what steps the system will take to provide State-specific data in future reports.

If information pertaining to the open-ended questions in this section is currently available for the hospital or health care system on-line, the hospital or health care system may provide the on-line reference for the pertinent information.

Hospital or Health Care System*	Blessing Hospital
Contact Person for this Section	Damion Dodd
Contact Telephone	(217) 223-8400
Contact E-Mail	Damion.Dodd@BlessingHealth.org

* If the reported information is for a Health Care System, please indicate in the space below the hospitals included in the Health Care system.

If the reporting entity cannot provide all State-specific data, explain why State-specific data is not available, and what steps will be taken to provide State-specific data in future reports:

Blessing Hospital is located on the border of Illinois and Missouri and within 120 miles or less of the St. Louis Metro Area. Many of our largest contractors have Missouri based locations. We have no qualified contractors listed on the State of Illinois database within our area. Howerve, we do contract with qualified contractors out of Missouri and will report that information in this section.

We have reached out to our local contractors to encourage them to review the states requirements to become listed as qualified vendors. Given our rural location and the limited number of qualified contractors in our area, we may not be able to add many additional qualified contractors to our list. Two our largest repetitive contractors, SM WILSON and HBD CONSTRUCTION, have both committed their businesses to diversity in hiring and subcontracting.

For reference, we searched ADAMS, BROWN, HANCOCK, PIKE and SCHUYLER Counties and only found a handful of certified vendors and of those listed, less than 1/2 are construction related. None of those contractors are qualified to perform the work we need on large projects.

Please provide the following information based on your hospital or health system's most recently completed fiscal year

For this section, **Qualifying capital expenditures** include "only expenditures ... for the erection, building, alteration, reconstruction, modernization, improvement, extension, or demolition of or by a hospital" [20 ILCS 3960/5.3(b)(1)].

A. What was your organization's goal for qualifying capital expenditures to the following categories of businesses?

	Percentage
Female-Owned Businesses	10.0 %
Minority-Owned Businesses	0.0 %
Veteran-Owned Businesses	0.0 %
Small Business Enterprises	0.0 %

B. What was the amount of your organization's total qualifying capital expenditures for the reporting period? **If your organization had no qualifying capital expenditures, proceed to question D.**

Total Qualifying Capital Expenditures for the Reporting Period (Dollars)	$	1,897,963.00

C. What amount of your organization's qualifying capital expenditures actually were to the following types of businesses?

	Actual Amount Expended (Dollars)	Percentage of Total (Calculated)
Female-Owned Businesses	$ 0.00	0.00 %
Minority-Owned Businesses	$ 0.00	0.00 %
Veteran-Owned Businesses	$ 0.00	0.00 %
Small Business Enterprises	$ 0.00	0.00 %

D. For what type or types of qualifying capital expenditures is/are your organization actively seeking supplier diversity?

We actively invite qualified construction contractors with relevant healthcare experience to participate in competitive bidding for our capital expenditures. Within our market, we encourage women owned, minority owned, veteran owned, and small business enterprises to participate in our competitive bidding, if interested. Manof of our General Contractors also have active programs to sek out and encourage women owned, minority owned, veteran owned, and small business subcontractors. We fully support and ask that our General Contractors place an emphasis in this area.

Often, our major capital expenditures are with national and/or international medical device and software companies. These expenditures are subject to limited choices. As a result, they drive up the total expeditures by millions of dollars and leave us little room to set and/or met meaningful goals for diverse suppliers...especially in times when we are attempting to restrict investments.

All of these national vendors are committed to diversity in their own hiring.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES TO FEMALE-OWNED, MINORITY-OWNED, VETERAN-OWNED AND SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

E. What is your organization's plan for alerting and encouraging enterprises of your efforts to promote supplier diversity in your planned qualifying capital expenditures?

We encourage our construction manager partners to include language in all bidding invitations to encourage bid submissions from qualified construction contractors with relevant healthcare experience, including any women owned, minority owned, veteran owned, and small business enterprises to bid on pur projects.

F. What challenges has your organization encountered in its efforts to promote and encourage supplier diversity?

In our area, we lack qualifiend and experienced contractors who able to bid on our specialized projects. We are on the border of Missouri and many of our contractor resources are Missouri based businesses who have little to no incentive to register/certify with Illinois.

Especially this year, we had only to qualifying projects...One for Electrical Work in our Utility plant
and One for work on / modernization of an Elevator bank...both specialized projects not conducive to open bidding.

G. What could the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board do to assist your efforts to increase supplier diversity?

To increase supplier diversity, we could use guidance on the classification of contractors and best practices to solicit contractors who are certified/registered. The state needs to be more proactive in recruitment and promotion of certification and its benefits so a more expansive list of qualified businesses are available. We are confident that more of our contractors do qualify as one of these desired classes, however, they are not currently registered and they see little incentive to going through the process.

H. What certifications does your organization recognize in the recruitment of diversely-owned vendors/suppliers?

We do not currently have any certifications to reference for recruitment of diverse suppliers/vendors

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES TO FEMALE-OWNED, MINORITY-OWNED, VETERAN-OWNED AND SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

I. How should a potential vendor/supplier contact your organization (point of contact)?

l vendor/supplier should contact our organization via Damion.Dodd@BlessingHealth.org

J. How would a vendor/supplier enroll with your organization to be recognized as a vendor/supplier of diversity ownership?

A vendor/supplier would need to present relevant experience in healthcare construction and have relevant licensing and industry knowledge to indicate qualifications to meet healthcare project specifications.

K. Do you have particular examples of successful recruitment of diversely-owned vendors/suppliers which could be instructive to other organizations to emulate in their efforts to recruit diversely-owned vendors/suppliers?

We have not yet had successful recruitment strategies to share at this time.