

AGENDA

DIVERSE & MINORITY BUSINESS FORUM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024

REGISTRATION & NETWORKING 9:30 AM

WELCOME - **Senator Sharif Street** 10:00 AM

REMARKS 10:05 AM

- **Kerry L. Kirkland**, Deputy Secretary for Diversity, Inclusion & Small Business Opportunities, PA Dept. of General Services
- **Office of Dwight Evans**

PANEL DISCUSSION

INCREASING YOUR NETWORK & SECURING FINANCING 10:35 – 11:25 AM

Introduction to COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program

- **Isaiah Smith**, PA Department of General Services, COSTARS Marketing Manager, Bureau of Procurement

How to do Business with the Commonwealth

- **Audrey Smith**, Outreach Manager, Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities, Department of General Services

Community First Fund

- **Rose Tirado-Turner**, Affinity Group Microlending Manager

BUILDING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SKILLS 11:30 – 12:25 PM

- **Robert Fleming**, Architect, Sustainability and Your Business
- **Solomon Wheeler**, US Small Business Development
- **Ken Scott**, Beech Interplex

NETWORKING 12:30-12:55 PM

CLOSE PROGRAM – Aissia Richardson 1:00 PM

CONFIRMED VENDORS

PUBLIC/MUNICIPAL

Amtrak
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of General Services
COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program
PENNDOT
Philadelphia – Procurement
Philadelphia – Commerce Department
Philadelphia – Commerce Department, Mayor’s Business Action Team
Philadelphia – Office of Economic Opportunity
Philadelphia Housing Authority
Philadelphia International Airport
U.S. Small Business Administration
SEPTA

CORPORATE/NONPROFIT

Community First Fund
Frankel Enterprises
Philadelphia School
Philadelphia Technician Training Institute
Small Business Development Center – Temple University
Solar States
Temple Health Systems