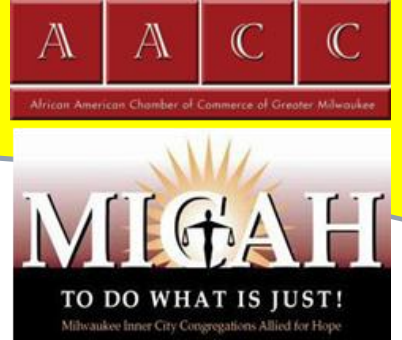


PROFESSIONAL GRADE CONTRACTOR PROGRAM



CERTIFIED



An economic initiative of
The African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Milwaukee

In partnership with

Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH)

What is the Certified Professional Grade (CPG) – Construction Contractor Program?

For Churches, Home Owners and Commercial/Government Buyers

Find a qualified contractor who will:

- Be licensed and insured.
- Hire and train Milwaukee inner-city residents.
- Pay their employees a family supporting wage.
- Have a list of references on file with the African American Chamber of Commerce.
- Provide you with a written estimate of the work to be done.
- Explain what is included and what isn't included in the estimate, in writing.
- Show up when they promise to be there or call you to reschedule immediately.
- Do the work professionally, expeditiously and at a reasonable price.
- Stand behind their guarantee.
- Return your calls and/or return to fix problems that occur after they leave or have been paid.
- Be reliable and respectful.
- Clean up after they have done work at your church or home.

For Contractors

It is a way to be recognized as a business committed to professional service delivery and genuine customer service. If you:

- Want to separate your business from “fly-by-night” contractors.
- Would like to be recognized as a quality service provider.
- Are willing to develop new talent from the central city, while paying family supporting wages commensurate with experience and skills.
- Desire to build your business from a steady stream of quality referrals.
- Are interested in obtaining referrals to perform work with MICAH members, private citizens and private sector companies.
- Commit to developing a strong business, based upon sound business practices.
- Are willing to participate in training programs that will strengthen you and your staff professionally, such as:
 - Creating sound estimates
 - Project Management
 - Cash Flow Management
 - Making a good first impression
 - Government Contracting
 - Customer Service Training
 - Developing a Safety program
 - How to obtain a bank Line of Credit
 - How to effectively resolve customer/project issues
 - City of Milwaukee Permitting Process
 - Developing a Quality Assurance Program
 - Completing Major Private Sector Projects
 - Managing your image and customer perception
 - Financial Reporting and Navigating the banking Industry

To join the program, you must:

Be a member of the African American Chamber of Commerce, meet the program entry requirements and agree to adhere to the principals of the Certified Professional Grade Contractor Program.

As a contracting member, you will be able to:

- Advertise your special designation as a Certified Professional Grade Contractor.
- Display Certified Professional Grade Contractor signage (Window and vehicle stickers will be made available).
- Obtain referrals from MICAH and affiliated organizations.

Call the African American Chamber of Commerce for Details: (414) 462-9450 or gmler@aaccmke.org