

HMSDC Program Managers Meeting L.E.V.E.L. U.P. Supplier Diversity with Innovation

**Lead Transformation. Elevate Purpose. Validate Action. Enhance Processes. Learn New Strategies.
Upset Status Quo. Provide Opportunities.**

**ION Houston - 4201 Main St, Houston, TX 77002
Wednesday, June, 29, 2022
8:30 am – 3:30 pm**

Sponsored by:



Speakers' Bios:



Jewel Smith
C.E.O.

i3029 Liron Consulting, LLC

After a successful 40-year career at a leading energy company, Jewel Smith founded i3029 Liron Consulting LLC, a supplier diversity & supplier development firm that specializes in harmonizing diversity strategies in rhythm with market success. Jewel gained exceptional utility industry knowledge which was applied to the intricacies of supplier diversity and program transformation during her 22 years as Manager, Supplier Diversity. Her company is currently engaged in providing business diversity consulting services to the Edison Electric Institute and some of its member energy companies. She also serves as Business Growth, Procurement & Resiliency Coach with the Women's Business Enterprise Alliance's Women's Business Center.



Richard Huebner
Former HMSDC
President

Richard A. Huebner retired after an illustrious 44-year career in association management. During that time, the organizations he touched achieved unprecedented success. He founded a highly successful business and led it to its first million-dollar sales year in only three years. He has worked with thousands of businesses, large and small, guiding minority and women-owned businesses in growing to a posture of doing more and more business with Houston's leading corporations and government agencies. He is a contributing author of the book, "The Secrets of Building A Successful Minority-Owned Company." He continues to work on in board or advisory capacity with a number of organizations.



Debra Stewart
Former Director, Supplier
Diversity and Diversity
Outreach at Shell Oil
Company | Energy
Executive | Speaker

A chemical engineer by education, Debra Stewart came to the Supplier Diversity Director role at Shell Oil Company from more than two decades of leadership in technology, marketing and business development, and led the SD practice for eight years. Under her leadership Shell's SD practice was reenergized and redesigned, and the SD team was repeatedly recognized for innovation and excellence in Supplier Diversity practice. With a certificate in Biblical Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary, Debra retired from Shell Oil in 2018 and now serves as Executive Director for LifePoint Community Church in Spring, Texas.



Scott A. Vowels
PhD, Manager
Supplier Diversity,
Apple and Author

Scott Vowels is part of the Supplier Diversity Team at Apple Inc. and author of the highly successful book "Hacking Supplier Diversity." He is a recognized thought leader and expert in the field of supplier diversity. His experiences comprises over 20 years in procurement and 10 years in supplier diversity.

REGISTER TODAY!

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Breakfast and lunch will be served



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**RICHARD A. HUEBNER
“Turning Entrepreneurs into Millionaires and
Leaders into Legends”**

Richard A. Huebner retired after an illustrious 44-year career in association management. During that time, the organizations he touched achieved unprecedented success. He founded a highly successful business and led it to its first million-dollar sales year in only three years. He has worked with thousands of businesses, large and small, guiding minority and women-owned businesses in growing to a posture of doing more and more business with Houston’s leading corporations and government agencies. He is a contributing author of the book, “The Secrets of Building A Successful Minority-Owned Company.” He continues to work on in board or advisory capacity with a number of organizations.

Huebner received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He has done graduate work at the Amos Tuck School of Management at Dartmouth University and is a Master Graduate of Discover Leadership Training. He is Past Chair of Leadership Houston, a graduate of the Center for Houston’s Future and a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum.

He rose quickly in his career to become executive director of a major international organization at the young age of 26. During his 12 years with that organization, he also founded and served as president of Virginia Collegiate Services taking it to its first year in \$1 million annual sales. As president, he led the Charlottesville-Albemarle Jaycees to become the leading chapter in the nation among over 9,000 chapters at the time and represented the United States in international competition.

Huebner served for 31 years as President of the Houston Minority Supplier Development Council where he led hundreds of major corporations and government agencies and thousands of Minority Business Enterprises in a common mission to increase and expand business opportunities and business growth for minority-owned businesses. Under his direction, the Houston Minority Supplier Development Council was recognized seven times nationally as Council of the Year by the National Minority Supplier Development Council and was named Houston's Greatest Non-Profit Business Organization by the Greater Houston Partnership.

Huebner has served on many boards for civic, business, education, banking, government, and community organizations. His work and leadership has been recognized with top awards by three of the past four Houston mayors as well as by the United Way, Houston Diversity Summit, Asian Chamber of Commerce, City of Houston, Federal Executive Board, Houston Money Week, Houston Minority Supplier Development Council, Houston Community College System, National Association For Community College Entrepreneurship, Houston International Trade Development Council, Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Institute of Supply Chain Management, Korean American Association, Leadership Houston, National Hispanic Professional Organization, National Minority Supplier Development Council, Native American Chamber of Commerce, TWEF, U.S. Department of Commerce – Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Small Business Administration, Who's Who in Houston, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, and the Women's Business Enterprise Council South. In 2017, Huebner was recognized as one of the Top 45 most influential figures in the 45-year history of the National Minority Supplier Development Council.

Huebner recently moved to Belize where he continues to advise, by phone or Zoom, a number of organizations and businesses. He is also exploring a mission opportunity to empower and grow those facing severe poverty in Belize.



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**JEWEL E. SMITH
Principal
i3029 Liron Consulting LLC**

After a successful 40-year career at a leading energy company, Jewel Smith founded i3029 Liron Consulting LLC, a supplier diversity & supplier development firm that specializes in harmonizing diversity strategies in rhythm with market success. Jewel gained exceptional utility industry knowledge which was applied to the intricacies of supplier diversity and program transformation during her 22 years as Manager, Supplier Diversity. Her company is currently engaged in providing business diversity consulting services to the Edison Electric Institute and some of its member energy companies. She also serves as Business Growth, Procurement & Resiliency Coach with the Women's Business Enterprise Alliance's Women's Business Center. Jewel excels in thought leadership and creative solutions that yield return on investment. Jewel is a recognized and accomplished supplier diversity professional experienced in developing effective supplier inclusion strategies, directing capacity building for small and diverse businesses, and delivering best in class supplier diversity results. She uses her talents as a volunteer professional on the NARUC /USAID International Committee's Diversity & Inclusion HR Working Group. Jewel has expertise in building and sustaining relationships across social, community, political, and business environments and she is a certified FINRA Public Arbitrator serving on panels to rule on financial cases. Jewel is actively involved in aspects of Houston's professional, social, charitable, business, and religious landscapes. She exhibits the ability to effectively interact and establish relationships with local, state, national, legislative, and regulatory oversight officials. Jewel has served on non-profit boards and held board leadership roles. As a public speaker, she is often called upon to deliver presentations, trainings, and facilitations. Jewel ignites enthusiasm and leads with passion, high energy, and integrity.