



Lafayette Economic Development Network Directory

.....

A Guide to Public and
Private Business
Development Assistance in
Lafayette Parish

.....



Lafayette Economic Development Entities

| | |
|--|----|
| Acadiana Arts Council | 2 |
| Acadiana Regional Development District | 3 |
| Downtown Development Authority | 4 |
| Enterprise Center of Louisiana | 5 |
| Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce | 6 |
| Lafayette Consolidated Government | |
| Department of Community Development | 7 |
| Workforce Development Program | 8 |
| Workforce Investment Board | 10 |
| Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission | 11 |
| Lafayette Economic Development Authority..... | 12 |
| Lafayette Regional Airport..... | 13 |
| Le Centre International De Lafayette..... | 14 |
| Louisiana Capital Certified Development Company, Inc. | 15 |
| University of Louisiana at Lafayette | |
| Acadiana Small Business Development Center | 16 |
| Center for Business and Information Technologies | 17 |
| The Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Louisiana | 18 |
| Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center | 19 |

ACADIANA ARTS COUNCIL

BUDDY PALMER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 53762
LAFAYETTE, LA 70505
(337) 233-7060
FAX: (337) 233-7062
EMAIL: Acadartco@aol.com

The mission of the **Acadiana Arts Council** is to create, facilitate, nurture, and fund arts and cultural activities to enrich quality of life and place. The council acts as a “cultural environmentalist,” enhancing the development and promoting the activities of arts and cultural organizations, creating opportunities for artists and filling community-programming needs. The council serves the eight parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion. By supporting the area’s unique cultural mix - translated through its vibrant music, distinct cuisine, burgeoning folk and contemporary art and various cultural attractions, the council assists in making Acadiana the second most visited tourist spot in Louisiana.

Projects and Activities:

- **GRANT MAKING**
The council awards \$350,000 annually through four grant programs. These funds generate more than \$1,200,000 in cultural projects through ticket sales, corporate sponsorships and additional grant or foundation dollars. Projects include festivals, performance series, library and school programs, and arts marketing campaigns.
- **ARTS-IN-EDUCATION**
With a new-and-future economy based on information, innovation and a rapid speed of change, Lafayette’s young people must be educated in a manner that will enable them to compete in the local and global marketplace. The council has developed a nationally recognized arts-in-education program that encourages problem-solving and nontraditional thinking - skills that business leaders agree are critical assets for tomorrow’s work force.
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
The Louisiana Crossroads Initiative is a joint project of the council and the Lafayette Economic Development Authority focused on the future development of our region’s burgeoning cultural entertainment industry.
- **ACADIANA CENTER FOR THE ARTS**
The Acadiana Arts Council manages the new Center, a \$10.2 million cultural facility partnership among Lafayette Consolidated Government, the State of Louisiana, Downtown Development Authority, and the Council.

ACADIANA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

STAN MCGEE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

601 C. LOIRE AVENUE

LAFAYETTE, LA 70507

(337) 886-7782

FAX: (337) 886-7081

GRAYLING HADNOTT

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNER

601 C. LOIRE AVENUE

LAFAYETTE, LA 70507

(337) 886-7782

FAX: (337) 886-7081

The **Acadiana Regional Development District (ARDD)** provides coordinated planning and economic development for the eight Parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion through the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The goal is to retain and create jobs to increase local revenues. ARDD works with other economic development entities on industry inducement, business expansion and international trade.

Programs and Projects:

- Regional Economic Development (U.S. Department of Commerce and Delta Regional Authority)
- Technical Assistance
- Small Business Loan Program (USDA and EDA)
- Enterprise Zones
- GIS Mapping
- Environmental Review Records
- Acadiana Regional Clearinghouse (USDA)
- JTPA 55 Plus Program
- Tourism Brochures
- Scenic Byways Studies
- Entrepreneurial Training through Louisiana Department of Labor
- Entrepreneurial Training through Louisiana Department of Economic Development
- Voter Redistricting
- Website Development
- Workforce Development through Louisiana Department of Labor

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

www.lafayettedowntown.org

CATHY WEBRE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

735 JEFFERSON ST., SUITE 204

LAFAYETTE, LA 70501

(337) 291-5566

FAX: (337) 291-5573

EMAIL: info@lafayettedowntown.org

The **Downtown Development Authority (DDA)** is the governing body of the Lafayette Centre Development District, which encompasses the traditional CBD and adjacent neighborhood areas. Its mission is the long-term physical, economic, civic and cultural redevelopment of the district.

DDA operates from an adopted master plan, which is organized around a 7-point strategy:

- Reinforce downtown's role as the governmental, legal, and financial center of the region
- Rebuild the retail core
- Reinforce downtown as an entertainment center
- Expand the role of tourism downtown through attractions, support services and accommodations
- Focus regional art and cultural activities downtown
- Stabilize and increase residential uses downtown
- Further develop downtown's center of professional and business support goods and services

With the GMP as a blueprint, the DDA works closely with its private, non-profit counterpart, Downtown Lafayette Unlimited; Lafayette Consolidated Government; and a variety of other public and private entities in such manner as to:

- Aid and encourage private business and development of the area
- Promote and coordinate public improvements
- Facilitate public - private development opportunities as they arise

DDA provides services and programs in 3 functional areas:

- Supplements to basic services such as security, cleaning, and maintenance
- Business development and marketing
- Capital improvements

The DDA is a first-stop resource for anyone interested in downtown business and real estate development. Individuals can obtain information and assistance with building and land sites, tax and financial incentives, and referrals to other agencies whose programs are applicable to the district.

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

- Enterprise Zone Program
- Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit
- Restoration Tax Abatement
- Downtown Façade Improvement Loan Program
- Lafayette Neighborhoods' Economic Development Corporation Loans
- Louisiana Capital Certified Development Company, Inc. Loans
- UL Lafayette Small Business Development Center Loans
- LAState Historic Preservation Tax Credit

THE ENTERPRISE CENTER OF LOUISIANA

www.ecol.org

ROY HOLLEMAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

3419 N.W. EVANGELINE THRUWAY

CARENCRO, LA 70520

(337) 896-9115

FAX: (337) 896-8736

EMAIL: roy@ecol.org

The **Enterprise Center of Louisiana (ECOL)** provides a nurturing environment for new or small emerging businesses to engage in operations with support, encouragement, and in-house assistance and referrals. ECOL is a joint economic development project between SLEMCO, UL Lafayette, and the city of Carencro.

- **Facility**

The 30,000 square foot facility allows for flexible occupancy packages. There are two office sizes, 216 and 279 square feet, available in addition to light manufacturing production suites, 1440 and 2880 square feet.

- **Environment**

The conducive business environment includes a reception area, janitorial services, break room, forklift, restrooms, office and manufacturing space.

- **Support Services**

Assistance with Internet marketing, Electronic Data Interchange, and electronic commerce opportunities are part of the package. Workroom with computer, paper cutter, fax machine, copier, mail boxes and postage machine is available. There are also 3 conference rooms for tenant use. Building has both security and fire alarms monitored 24/7.

- **Management Assistance**

Guidance is provided by the center, as well as outside agencies. Assistance is also available for locating business financing.

- **Features**

Close association with other entrepreneurs promotes networking opportunities for businesses with similar problems and solutions. Assistance from UL Lafayette is also available, as needed.

- **Other Services**

Reduced fees may be obtained for services such as legal consultation, accounting and bookkeeping, computer training and consulting, and marketing assistance.

GREATER LAFAYETTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.lafchamber.org

ROB GUIDRY
PRESIDENT & CEO
P.O. BOX 51307
LAFAYETTE, LA 70505
(337) 233-2705
FAX: (337) 234-8671
EMAIL: rob@lafchamber.org

The **Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce** is the leading force in the improvement of the business environment, the economic health, and general vitality of the region. The Chamber's focus is economic development and community development.

The Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce:

- Is one of 310 Accredited Chambers through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce out of 6,936 chambers nationwide.
- Has 2,200 members, of which 90% are small businesses.
- Operates under a strong committee structure with emphasis on governmental affairs, technology, education, infrastructure and economic development.
- Sponsors the national award-winning Leadership Lafayette, which boasts 475 graduates, to date. Those graduates are prepared for enhanced community, civic, professional, and political involvement.
- Maintains a high-profile business partnership with the Lafayette Parish School System.
- Is an active member of the International Interstate-49 Coalition.
- Maintains a high-profile Web presence at www.lafchamber.org.
- Provides legislative services through the efforts of a legislative lobbyist.
- Provides value-added programs and services for its members.
- Provides ribbon cutting and ground breaking organizational support.
- Provides several networking activities throughout the year and communicates regularly with its membership.
- Maintains an Information Center with business information on demographics and incentives and other related information.

LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MELANIE LEWIS
DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 4017-C
LAFAYETTE, LA 70502-4017
(337) 291-8402
FAX: (337) 291-8434

The Lafayette Community Development Department offers a number of programs that address housing and economic development priority needs in the city/parish. These include:

- Housing Rehabilitation Program: Deferred payment loans and city/parish carpentry crews are offered as incentives to correct housing deficiencies at owner-occupied, single family residences.
- First Time Home Buyers Training Workshop
- Relocation Program
- Community Housing Development Organization
- Housing Counseling
- WIA (Workforce Investment Act) Program: Provides funding for academic and vocational training to qualified applicants: operates a Resource Center where participants can research the current job market.

Our Business Development Section administers the following programs:

- The Homebuyers Assistance Program (HAP) is a program that helps first time homebuyers with down payment and closing cost assistance in purchasing their new home. It is a program for low to moderate-income families and provides a \$5,000.00 second mortgage at 2% interest payable over 10 years. The funds must be used in our CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Target Area.
- The LCG/LPTFA (Lafayette Consolidated Government/Lafayette Public Trust Financing Authority) Home Buyers Assistance Program is a new program that helps first time homebuyers in Lafayette Parish with down payment and closing cost assistance in purchasing their new home. It is a program for moderate-income families (115% of median income or less). The program provides a \$5,000.00 second mortgage at 5% interest payable over 15 years.
- A Disadvantage Business Enterprise database consisting of a current listing of Women/Minority Business Enterprises in the Lafayette Area. The database provides information to Lafayette Consolidated Government's Purchasing division for inclusion of disadvantaged business enterprises on the vendor's list. It maintains information on upcoming bids and their requirements, and assists business owners with bid applications.
- The Louisiana Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program for the Lafayette Consolidated Government. The EZ Program is a jobs incentive program that includes state tax credits.
- Technical assistance and referral service to private, small businesses located in Lafayette Parish.

LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
LAFAYETTE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

MELANIE LEWIS, Director of Community Development
CHRISTINA M. JOHNSTONE, Interim Workforce Development Manager
706 EAST VERMILION
LAFAYETTE, LA 70502
(337) 262-5563
FAX: (337) 262-5564

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Lafayette Workforce Development Program, established by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, is a federally funded program established to increase the employment, retention, and earnings of program participants, increase the occupational skill attainment by participants, and as a result improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of local business and industry. The comprehensive One Stop System is customer focused to provide an array of services to the local citizens and business community.

Lafayette Consolidated Government administers the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) locally. The local agency offers numerous training programs and services to individuals needing to prepare for entry or reentry into the workforce, and businesses in need of employees or current workers who need to upgrade their skills.

TRAINING SERVICES

Earn while you learn. Eligible participants can learn specific tools-of-the-trade while earning a salary on the job site. On the Job Training (OJT) reimburses employers up to 50% of a trainee's hourly wage or salary, dependant on the complexity of the skills to be learned and the skill level of the trainee. WIA provides financial assistance such as but not limited to : tuition and books, uniforms, tools, etc. for individuals who cannot find work and who qualify for the program. Training must be in a local demand occupation and can be provided by an approved occupation from the listing of venders on LOIS/Scorecard.

ONE-STOP CAREER INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER

The Career Information Center provides free, quality services for WIA clients, employers and the general public. The Center offers a comprehensive array of services and resources relative to career information, job search, basic skills development, the labor market information, and employment and training programs. Some of the services and tools available include:

- Access to the Louisiana Department of Labor's Job Bank
- A computer-based resume and cover letter program
- A computer-based typing tutorial
- Personal development videos
- Basic skills and GED preparation materials including a computer based program
- The latest computerized vocational assessments, Workkeys, SAGE, and O*Net available to provide for individual assessment of aptitudes and interests and computer matching with the requirements of demand jobs
- Information on job demands, pay, and training by regions and statewide provided by the Louisiana Occupational Information System (LOIS)
- Introduction to the computer and basic software application classes
- WorkKeys Assessment
- O*Net Assessment
- System for Assessment and Group Evaluation (SAGE)

CLIFTON CHENIER YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

The award winning YOUTH Services Center is a place oriented and designed to be the base for all youth services implemented through the Lafayette Workforce Development Program. The center offers numerous programs and services to individuals needing to prepare for training and entry in today's work force. The center is located at 220 West Willow Street, Town Hall Building #102, Lafayette, Louisiana.

Some of the services offered are: tutoring and study skills training; summer employment opportunities; work-experience; internships and job shadowing; leadership training; and guidance and counseling.

LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

LAFAYETTE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (formerly Private Industry Council)

GLEN DUGAS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

215 EAST PINHOOK

LAFAYETTE, LA 70501

(337) 706-1216

FAX: (337) 291-7191

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 established the Lafayette Workforce Investment Board (WIB). This legislation supersedes the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and represents an overhaul of the Nation's employment and training system. One of the key components of WIA is the strong role that is provided by the local workforce investment board.

The Workforce Investment Act mandates that the board must be composed of a majority of business leaders, as well as leaders from labor, education, economic development and community based organizations and representatives of each of the One-Stop partners. The Lafayette Workforce Investment Board is made up of thirty-one members, sixteen of whom represent private business. A substantial amount of the WIB's work is first addressed by one of its seven committees (Executive, Bylaws, Planning, One-Stop, Oversight, Regional Coordination and Youth Council). These committees meet on a regular basis to develop workforce development strategies and then report to and make recommendations to the full WIB for final action. The WIB utilizes a three-person staff composed of an Executive Director, Planner, and Monitor to conduct and oversee the day-to-day administrative and programmatic functions. The WIB staff reports directly to the WIB and its chairman, and to the Director of the Department of Administrative Services.

CHIEF FUNCTIONS OF THE WIB:

- Develop the local workforce development plan
- Select the One-Stop operator
- Identify eligible service providers and training programs
- Conduct program monitoring and oversight
- Negotiate program performance measures
- Coordinate local economic development strategies
- Promote participation of employers in the workforce investment system

LAFAYETTE CONVENTION AND VISITORS COMMISSION

www.lafayettetravel.com

GERALD BREAUX

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

P.O. BOX 52066

LAFAYETTE, LA 70505

(337) 232-3737

FAX: (337) 232-0161

EMAIL: gerald@lafayettetravel.com

The Lafayette Convention & Visitors Commission (LCVC) markets Lafayette throughout the world as a vacation and convention destination. It solicits and services conventions and other visitor promotions, which generate overnight stays in Lafayette, enhancing the economic fabric of the community.

LCVC works with elements of the visitor industry and tour planners to assure that Lafayette maintains a prominent position in the travel and meeting industry.

Projects and Activities:

- **Tourism Marketing**
Emphasis is placed on increasing the awareness of Lafayette as an overnight destination, both domestically and internationally.
- **Conventions**
Attention is devoted to the state meetings market, along with regional, national and international meetings.
- **Membership**
This program secures new members for LCVC.
- **Media**
LCVC actively seeks regional, national and international media attention to draw more visitors to Acadiana.
- **Winter Visitor Marketing**
Acadiana is marketed to visitors from the North and Canada as an excellent winter vacation destination.
- **Film Inducement**
LCVC acts as a film commission, coordinating and locating production requirements.
- **Sports Event Promotion**
The Cajundome's ice floor and arena, the UL Lafayette Athletic Complex, Pelican Park, the doubling of the Moore Field Soccer Complex, the hockeyplex, and additional sports venues create exciting marketing opportunities for the hospitality industry.
- **Multi-Cultural Marketing**
LCVC promotes Lafayette to the multi-cultural travel market with special programs in these areas.
- **Retirement Inducement**
This cooperative marketing effort seeks to lure retirees to visit and settle in Acadiana.

LAFAYETTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

www.lafayette.org

GREGG GOTHREUX
PRESIDENT AND CEO
211 EAST DEVALCOURT STREET
LAFAYETTE, LA 70506
(337) 593-1400*-
FAX: (337) 234-3009

The **Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA)** provides assistance with business development in Lafayette Parish. The LEDA Resource Center provides technical assistance, state and local demographics, tax incentives, workforce programs, and site selection assistance.

LEDA's mission is threefold:

- To develop business retention and expansion by providing assistance to local companies in growth, market development, and workforce development efforts.
- To assist in the development of new companies to diversify Lafayette's economy.
- To recruit additional companies to locate in this area.

LEDA Departments:

- The President assists in preserving and creating jobs for local residents and simplifies the legislative and technical processes for businesses. Phone: (337) 593-1416
- The Vice President conducts LEDA's aggressive business visitation program and works with the existing Lafayette Parish business base to facilitate business retention and expansion within the Parish. This department also coordinates LEDA services for clients and provides assistance with incentives, tenant services, and other government agencies. Phone: (337) 593-1409
- The Information Services Department provides statistical and demographic data for local and regional areas, an extensive database of Lafayette Parish businesses, public access to personal computers for business development, and a multimedia conference facility for companies to provide computer-training seminars. LEDA's quality system according to ISO 9002 standards are also managed through this department. Phone: (337) 593-1408
- The Workforce Development Department assists businesses throughout Acadiana by providing information on the utilization of state and federal programs including the acquisition of state funds to help offset training expenses. This department also coordinates the LEDA Job Fair and administers workforce connection programs. Phone: (337) 593-1405
- The Recruitment Department assists in attracting new business and industry to Lafayette by providing information on available commercial real estate buildings or sites, locating in one of LEDA's four industrial parks, expansion project assistance, and tax incentive opportunities. Phone: (337) 593-1415
- The Technology Department serves as an advisor to the business community and local government regarding technology issues such as digital business readiness, e-commerce, networking, Internet, broadband, wireless, e-governance, and technology trends affecting the Lafayette business community. They conduct Digital Business Reviews for businesses in Lafayette Parish and gives technology presentations at public and private functions. As a consulting advisor he researches technology issues, provides a valuable 1st and 2nd opinion service, and a long range strategic plan for local commerce in the technology area.
- LEDA's Procurement Specialist, within the Southwest Procurement Technical Assistance Center, provides information on government contracts and prime procurement opportunities, identifying purchasing agencies and marketing/purchasing strategies, and matching technical requests of local businesses with available technology provided by federal programs. Phone: (337) 593-1418

LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT

GREG ROBERTS

DIRECTOR OF AVIATION

200 TERMINAL DRIVE

LAFAYETTE, LA 70508-2159

(337) 266-4400

FAX: (337) 266-4410

The City/Parish Government established the **Lafayette Airport Commission** to administer the lands that encompass the **Lafayette Regional Airport**. The charge to the Lafayette Airport Commission was to derive revenue through rents and charges to make the airport as self sufficient as possible. Today, the Lafayette Regional Airport attracts trade, generates employment, provides revenue and plays an important role in the economic growth of Acadiana. Lafayette Regional Airport currently has three regional airlines providing services to Houston, Memphis and Atlanta. Passenger traffic for 2003 was 317,938. The airport has two fixed-based operators providing an array of services to corporate and private aircraft.

Through careful planning and foresight, the Lafayette Airport Commission continues to direct the airport toward improved services and expansion while taking advantage of the best economic opportunities. Toward that end, the airport is currently marketing available airport land for the most efficient and effective use.

Funding for the airport comes from several major sources:

- **Airport Improvement Program**- Federal program that provides entitlement and discretionary grants for major airport improvements (Runway rehabilitation, security fences, etc.).
- **Ad Valorem Taxes**- Parish wide vote establishes millage that provides funds dedicated to operations and maintenance of the airport.
- **State Matching Funds**- Mandated by the legislature to supplement funds from the Federal Airport Improvement Program.
- **Passenger Facility Charge**- Federal program which authorizes the airport to collect \$3 per passenger for funding of very specific projects.
- **State Legislative Capital Improvement Grants**- Funds provide for very specific capital improvement projects that meet strict legislative guidelines.
- **Rents, Fees, & Charges**- Funds generated from leases, rental, aircraft landing fees, parking fees and fuel flowage that are the primary source for operating capital and improvements, other than those listed above.

Examples of Lafayette Regional Airport's Projects completed:

- Taxiway Rehabilitation
- Passenger Loading Bridges
- Apron Rehabilitation
- Runway Rehabilitation

Over the past four years, the Lafayette Airport Commission infused \$2.1 million or more per year in Capital Improvement Projects into the Acadiana economy with a total impact in excess of \$661 million per year.

LE CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE LAFAYETTE

www.leCentre.org

PHILIPPE GUSTIN
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MANAGER
735 JEFFERSON STREET
LAFAYETTE, LA 70501
(337) 291-5474
FAX: (337) 291-5480
EMAIL: pgustin@lafayettegov.net

The mission of Le Centre International is to foster an increase in international commerce and tourism in the Lafayette area by:

- Assisting small and medium-sized businesses in the Lafayette area in exporting their products of services abroad through the identification of new markets and expansion of existing markets.
- Contributing to the development of Lafayette as a distribution center.
- Creating a network of international relations by means of participation in the SESAME Network.
- Promoting international tourism, especially cultural tourism, and attracting a greater number of international visitors and meetings to the city and parish of Lafayette and surrounding areas.

Le Centre International offers the following services:

- Identification of trade opportunities and contacts
- One-on-one export counseling
- Trade missions, trade shows and catalogue shows
- Export financing referrals
- Assistance with NTDB market research
- Seminars and workshops
- Public awareness program

LOUISIANA CAPITAL CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.

P. ANDRÉ FRUGE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
302 LaRue France, Suite 200
LAFAYETTE, LA 70508
(337) 234-2977
FAX: (337) 234-5535

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) provides long-term financing to small businesses through its Certified Development Company Program - SBA 504. **Louisiana Capital Certified Development Company, Inc.** is one of six Certified Development Companies in the state of Louisiana certified by the SBA to fund loans under this 504 program. Louisiana Capital is a private, non-profit group, organized in 1983 to contribute to the economic development of its community. The overall objective of the company is to stimulate growth and expansion of businesses by financially assisting them with commercial real estate transactions.

- Service areas include Lafayette, Lake Charles, and Baton Rouge together with their surrounding parishes.
- Louisiana Capital, in partnership with private lending institutions, provides loan financing to eligible businesses.
- The typical 504-loan structure is 50% of project financing provided by a private lender, 40% of project financing provided by Louisiana Capital/SBA, and the remaining 10% would be equity injection into the project by the owners. Down payment requirements are subject to eligibility.
- Low down payments, long maturities, fixed interest rates and collateral incentives for bank participation are all advantages of this type of financing.
- The project must promote economic development through one of the following: creation of jobs, location of project in a rural area, expansion of exports, and/or the promotion of minority business development.

Louisiana Capital also provides packaging services for the SBA 7A Program.

MARK GALYEAN
DIRECTOR
220 EAST ST. MARY BLVD.
LAFAYETTE, LA 70504
(337) 262-5344
FAX: (337) 262-1223
EMAIL: sbdc@louisiana.edu

The **Acadiana Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** provides information, counseling, and assistance to individuals who plan to start a small business or those who already own one. It operates with assistance from the Louisiana Department of Economic Development (DED), the Small Business Administration (SBA), and UL Lafayette.

SBDC:

- Serves the parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermilion
- Provides one-on-one counseling from professional staff members
- Accesses resources from UL faculty and students and the Service Corps of Retired Executives
- Addresses such issues as business plan development, financial resources, licensing, and business structure
- Conducts workshops and seminars to keep small businesses abreast of current practices and changing trends in today's business climate. These are designed to develop and raise the management skills of owners and managers. These are conducted on the UL campus, at LEDA and at various Chamber of Commerce offices throughout Acadiana.
- Contains a resource library of materials for starting and managing a small business. SBA publications and other reference information are also available.
- Has a video station for individualized video-based training on key business subjects
- Has a computer station for individual client use within several small business software applications, including access to the Internet for research and SBA ProNet use

DR. RAMESH KOLLURU
DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 44932
LAFAYETTE, LA 70504-4932
(337) 482-0600
FAX: (337) 482-0621
EMAIL: Kolluru@louisiana.edu

CBIT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Center for Business & Information Technologies (CBIT) is to support the University's economic development agenda through research, development, and technology transfer in the general area of business and information technologies. In cooperation with private sector, academic, and government partners, the Center

- conducts basic and applied research aimed at establishing scientific foundations and frameworks for business & information technologies,
- develops and commercializes products, and
- provides strategic and technical support to Louisiana businesses and government.

Research and development efforts focus on reliable, scalable, extensive, cost-effective, secure, and interoperable architectures, systems and technologies with high potential for commercial implementation. The R&D agenda is shaped by the Center's partners and clients through an advisory board that provides guidance on industry trends and market opportunities. Current areas of activity include

- *Business services*: Supply chain management, business-to-business electronic commerce, customer relations management; inventory management solutions, enterprise systems strategies, and site selection decision support systems;
- *Information Technology Services*: Databases, web-based 2-tier/3-tier software applications, Internet e-commerce; legacy system integration; communications, networking, and security strategies;
- *Enterprise Services*: Lean manufacturing, manufacturing automation, and manufacturing system integration.

The Center seeks to be recognized within the state as a prime source for high value-added business and information technology solutions for existing and start-up businesses and for government agencies in the state of Louisiana.

CBIT Highlights:

- Launched the "*Louisiana Commerce Exchange System*" (LACES), on March 24, 2003. LACES is an on-line directory of Louisiana Businesses allowing them to showcase their products/services and establish business-to-business partnerships.
- Conducted a seminar "*A Roadmap to Supply Chain Management*" July 21-22, 2003 in Lafayette, LA to help Louisiana businesses manage their supplier-customer relationships and inventories.
- Developed the "*BalancedFlow*" supply chain management software for applications within the Defense Logistics Agency of the U.S. Department of Defense and the commercial marketplace.

Received the prestigious "*Lantern 2003*" Award from Louisiana Economic Development for contributions to economic development in Louisiana through the use of information technology.

CORRINE DUPUY

DIRECTOR

P.O. BOX 44172

LAFAYETTE, LA 70504

(337) 482-6767

FAX: (337) 482-5472

EMAIL: cdupuy@louisiana.edu

MEPoL works with small and mid-size manufacturers throughout the state to help them become more productive and competitive. Assistance is provided via an integrated network of public and private resources in the following areas:

- Design
- ISO 9000
- Plant Layout
- Marketing
- Lean Manufacturing
- E-Commerce
- Inventory Control
- Accounting
- Production
- Engineering
- Rapid Prototyping

SHERRIE MULLINS

PROGRAM MANAGER

P.O. BOX 44172

LAFAYETTE, LA 70504

(337) 482-6422

FAX: (337) 482-5837

EMAIL: SherIm@louisiana.edu

Funded by the State of Louisiana through the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency, the Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (LA PTAC) is a statewide program providing government contracting support to companies in 54 Louisiana parishes. The PTAC network of outreach centers located throughout the state provides one-on-one procurement counseling and training to businesses seeking or working on government contracts.

PTAC helps Louisiana companies obtain and perform federal, state and local contracts through individual counseling, seminars and training courses. Assistance includes:

- Marketing
- Bid Preparation
- Government Contracting Regulations
- Contract Administration
- Quality
- Packaging requirements
- Proposal Review
- EC/EDI Government Contracting initiatives and programs
- Transportation
- Supplier Certification
- Pricing Policies
- Procurement Histories
- Contract Negotiation
- Problem Solving
- Specs and Standards

Produced By:

