

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EVP OF MERCHANDISING:



Through supplier diversity Staples offers innovative products and an expanded assortment at competitive prices.

At Staples, we continually look for innovative, top-quality products and services to offer our customers. Diversity suppliers help us meet this goal and our customers' varying needs.

That's why we proactively seek relationships with historically underutilized businesses and encourage our prime suppliers to do the same.

Integrating diversity suppliers into our supply chain is part of our holistic approach to doing business that we call Staples Soul. We believe our suppliers should reflect the face of our customers as well as share Staples' commitment to our customers and our communities.

Currently we provide access to more than 525 minority and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE) and Physically Challenged Organization (PCO) products in 35 of our product categories. Our program allows diversity suppliers to reach a much broader audience and represents more than \$607 million of diversity spend.

Even so, our Diversity Supplier Program is one business strategy where we see great possibility and a number of growth opportunities. To that end we are committed to:

- investing in and building our relationships with historically underutilized businesses;
- becoming a preferred vendor of historically underutilized businesses;
- improving how we identify products manufactured by diverse suppliers so they are easier for our customers to find; and
- developing clear goals, policies and procedures to ensure maximum success.

Since launching our Diversity Supplier Program, Staples and our diversity suppliers have experienced both quantitative and qualitative results. We look forward to expanding our strategies and witnessing the lasting positive impact it has on our business and our suppliers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jevin Eagle". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Jevin Eagle
Executive Vice President, Merchandising