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Annual Vendor Exhibit

CP draws in more than 200 members and vendors

Choice Partners (CP) recently hosted its annual Vendor Exhibit and asked all exhibitors to show their school pride of their favorite school, which included school districts, universities or colleges.

More than 70 awarded vendors dressed in jerseys, team shirts and caps displayed their various products and services to more than 150 members so both could engage in discussions on specific project needs. Vendors gained prospective usage of their



awarded contracts and made in-person contacts with members.

Prior to the event opening, there was a financial session presented by Dr. Jesus Amezcua, CFO for Harris County Department of Education (HCDE) (*pictured below*), regarding federal guidelines for procurement under 2 CFR 200 and the federal requirements under the NOGA (notification of grant award).



Participants learned tips on how to successfully use federal funds, resolve conflicts of interest, and RFP procedures, allowing a deeper look into properly utilized procurement for their entity. Each participant was awarded 2 CEUs for attendance of the session.

The event was located at the Norris Conference Center on the westside of Houston. The annual exhibit allows participants to have personal time with vendors in order to develop a better working relationship when using the CP contracts. It was

a fun setting with vendors dressed in their favorite school gear.

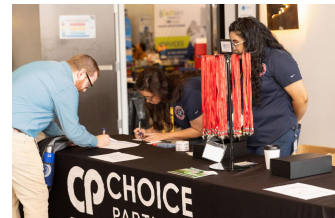
Ovol, an awarded CP vendor, said it was one of the best events CP has hosted.

“The event space was more intimate, not too spread out, well-organized and moved along at a good pace.”

To learn more about Choice Partners, visit www.choicepartners.org or call 877-696-2122.



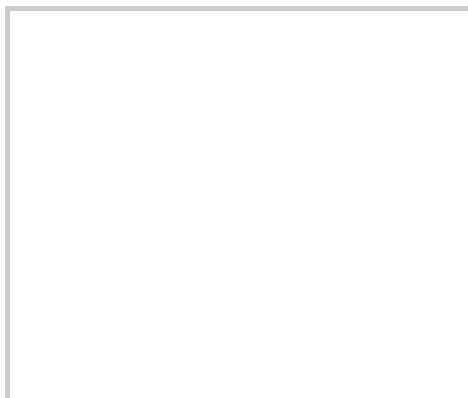
Vendor Exhibit Photo Gallery



[\[SEE MORE PHOTOS\]](#)

Legal Corner

Navigating the Effect of Tariffs



Across the world, buyers and sellers – including CP members and vendors – are analyzing how the recently imposed tariffs will affect them.

From a legal perspective, sellers generally bear the risk of increased costs, including those caused by tariffs, for fixed-price contracts, whereas under cost-plus contracts, increased costs are typically passed on to buyers (unless a guaranteed maximum price has been agreed upon).



Sarah Langlois
HCDE Legal Counsel

From a practical perspective, sellers should provide buyers with sufficient documentation that individual goods are subject to specific tariffs. Buyers and sellers should negotiate any changes to pricing in good faith, ideally with both sides sharing the increased costs.

Choice Partners is carefully evaluating the executive orders imposing, revising, and pausing the various tariffs and will soon be communicating CP's plan to address vendors' requests for pricing adjustments stemming from the imposition of tariffs.

To read the full article, [visit our About Us](#) section at choicepartners.org to get caught up to speed on current events.

Events with Choice



Kimberly Georgetown-Walker, food service manager at YWCA, wins the giveaway prize at the National Child Nutrition Conference (NCNC).



Jedediah Greenfield, CPO for city of Houston, Texas, was presented with a top member appreciation award by CP Purchasing Procurement Consultant Bethany Webster, at 2025 TxPPA conference in Round Rock, Texas.

Choice Extras



Choice Partners Youtube

View our latest Child Nutrition and Product Expo held Oct. 10, 2024, at the Humble Civic Center, TX.

[Subscribe to CP's Youtube](#)



Choice Chat Podcast

Join us as we listen to Janet Wachs, assistant director of marketing and client engagement, discuss benefits of becoming a Choice Partners member.

[Listen Today](#)

CP LinkedIn



Give us a follow on LinkedIn for the latest events, news, and RFQs at [Choice Partners | LinkedIn](#).

Work with Us!



Want to work at Choice?

We are dedicated to fostering an inclusive environment where passionate individuals can thrive and contribute to our mission.

Apply today at www.choicepartners.org/careers.

New Members

HCDE Interlocal Agreements with new members: Museum of Fine Arts, Houston., Houston, Texas, **Paris Junior College**, Paris, Texas; **West Hardin County CISD**, Saratoga, Texas; **Naval Supply System Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center**, Mechanicsburg, Penn.; **Port of Everett**, Everett, Wash.; and **University of Cincinnati**, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Out-of-state new members: **Arizona College of Nursing**, Phoenix, Ariz.; **Centennial ISD**, Portland, Ore.; **Community High School District 128**, Vernon Hills, Ill.; **Fort Greene Preparatory**, Brooklyn, N.Y.; **Madera, California - Engineering**, Madera, Calif.; **Northfield Park District**, Northfield, Ill.; and **University of North Alabama**, Florence, Ala.

Contracts

Recently Awarded Contracts: Bottled Drinking Water, Coolers, and other Beverage Related Products.

Recently Renewed Contracts: M&O Parts and Equipment; Coolers and Other Beverage Related Products; Water Treatment Chemicals and Related Items; Waste and Recycling Services; Musical Instruments and Related Items; Disaster Recovery Consultants; Human Resources Support Software and Services 026SG Insurance and Third Party Administration Services; Event Space Scheduling System Maintenance Component; Apparel and Footwear for Food Service; Commodity Processing of USDA Foods; Direct Delivery of Snacks and Beverages; Frozen Dessert Products.

Upcoming Events



NAEP
May 4-7
New Orleans, La.



TACCBO
June 2-5
San Marcos, Texas



TASN
June 21-25
Corpus Christi, Texas.

Current CSP's & RFP's



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP #25/027AK

Ice Cream Products

Due Date: Friday, May 2



RFP #25/029TP

Wireless Temperature Monitoring Systems and Other Related Products

Due Date: Friday, May 2



RFP #25/028TC

Retail Energy Purchase

Due Date: Thursday, May 1



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP 25/032SG

Staffing and Related Services

Due Date: Thursday, May 15, 2 PM CT



CSP 25/033MR

General Contractor (JOC)

Due Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2 PM CT



CSP 25/035MR

Maintenance (All Trades) and Single Trades Component (JOC)

Due Date: Friday, June 27, 2 PM CT



Retail Energy Purchase

Ice Cream Products

Wireless Temperature Monitoring Systems and other Related Products

Staffing and Related Services

General Contractor (JOC)

Maintenance (All Trades) and Single Trades Component (JOC)

Due Date: May 1, 2024

Due Date: May 2, 2024

Due Date: May 2, 2024

Due Date: May 15, 2024

Due Date: May 23, 2024

Due Date: June 27, 2024

[View Current CSP's and RFP's](#)

Get Involved

Do you know a vendor who has provided exemplary service? Have a statement to make about Choice Partners service quality? Want to share with others about a Choice contract that meets your needs? Submit your review using the link below.

[Submit a Review](#)

We would love for our members to host a training. Trainings are a great way to network and gain exposure. If you would like to host a training, submit your information to the link below:

[Host a Training](#)

Let your contacts who are quality vendors know about these opportunities. They must register in our E-Bid system to do business with us.

Register to Become a Vendor



Choice Partners | A Division of Harris County Department of Education
6005 Westview, Houston, TX 77055



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