

# LOCAL/SMALL BUSINESS

## Selective Purchasing Policy Guide



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

**Issue Description:** Many organizations have a small economic footprint in their communities. But no matter how small that may be, there is always the opportunity to support the local community and make this known. With this in mind, some organizations choose to waive the lowest price they might pay for goods or services in order to support the local economy. It is often helpful to delineate the scope of decisions in this area of vendor choice. A two-page resource on the benefits of purchasing locally is available through the American Independent Business Alliance. <http://www.amiba.net/home/benefits-local-business>

**Sample wording:** “XXX (synod/congregation/organization) chooses to support our local small business community through our purchasing power. Therefore we make a commitment to purchase the following items from our local small businesses:

(examples, not exclusive)

Printing services  
Cleaning services  
Catering”

### **Resources:**

American Independent Business Alliance - <http://www.amiba.net/>

### **Examples:**

Columbia University -  
<http://www.finance.columbia.edu/hr/resources/PurchasingPolicies.ppt>

University of Iowa -  
[http://www.uiowa.edu/~purchase/purchase/P\\_vendors/small\\_bus\\_util.htm](http://www.uiowa.edu/~purchase/purchase/P_vendors/small_bus_util.htm)

Northwestern University -  
<http://www.northwestern.edu/userservices/purchasing/policy.pdf>