



Western Connecticut
Leadership

A Program of



Economic Development Session November 5, 2018

Goal and Objectives

- ❖ To present an overview of the state of economic development in Connecticut.
- ❖ To use presenters and moderated panels to discuss what is presently happening on the regional and local levels to promote business growth.
- ❖ To demonstrate how businesses can support non-profits, and how business and non-profits can drive economic growth.

Important Session Information

Session Leaders

Nancy Newton, *WCL '17*
Darlene Stromstad, *WCL '17*
Bibby Veerman, *WCL '17*

Advisor

Bilal Tajildeen, Program Coordinator, *Connecticut Community Foundation*

Session Attire

Dressing for comfort is appropriate. Walking shoes are recommended.

Venue

South Farms
21 Higbie Road
Morris, CT

Parking is available at South Farms.

Agenda

- 8:30 – 8:50 Arrival and Light Breakfast
- 8:50 – 9:00 **Welcome**
Session Day Planners
- 9:00 – 9:45 **The State of Economic Development in Connecticut**
Joe Brennan, President, *CT Business and Industry Association*
- 9:45 – 10:30 **Driving Economic Development in Western Connecticut**
Courtney Hendricson, Vice President of Municipal Services, *CT Economic Resource Center*
- 10:30 - 10:45 Break
- 10:30 – 11:30 **Sustainable and Responsive Living Economies**
Mark Allegrini, Partnership and Strategy Consultant, *Sustainable CT*
Kathy Castagnetta, Community Investment Officer, *Town of New Milford*
Julianne Bailey, *WCL '14*
- 11:30 – 12:30 **South Farms: Past, Present and Future**
Ben Paletsky, Owner, *South Farms*
- 12:30 – 1:15 Lunch
- 1:15 – 2:15 **Providing Skilled Workers to the Manufacturing Industry**
Cyndi Zoldi, Executive Director, *Smaller Manufacturers Association of CT*
Deirdre D'Amore, Enrollment/Retention Specialist, *Naugatuck Valley Community College*
- 2:15 – 3:00 **Creative Partnerships for Revitalization**
Jeff Dunn, Executive Director, *Landmark Community Theater at the Thomaston Opera House*
- 3:00 - 3:15 **Foundation Bite: Community Philanthropy**
Heidi Green, Director of Development, *Connecticut Community Foundation*
- 3:15 – 3:30 Wrap up and Preview of Arts and Culture Session