

Columbia Economic Development Corporation

Operations and Accomplishments

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Operations:

The Columbia Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) assists businesses with financial incentives, technical assistance, loans, site location assistance and training. Since 1992, CEDC has helped hundreds of local businesses through its MicroBusiness training program, SBA Microloan program, technical assistance program, revolving loan funds, and Community Development Block Grant loans. CEDC provides assistance in accessing New York State funding through the Empire State Development grant funds as well as Excelsior Jobs tax credits.

Accomplishments:

- Monthly newsletters and eblasts were distributed to 1500 recipients.
- Onsite business visits were conducted to large and small existing businesses to determine issues and potential areas of assistance. Visitations also included technical assistance recipients, microloan recipients and current and potential loan clients as well as businesses interested in locating or re-locating to Columbia County.
- Renewed contracts with Columbia County and the City of Hudson Industrial Development Agency for administrative support.
- Board and committees reviewed and approved required compliance items including: 2017 audited financials, Form 990, 2019 budget, mission & measurement reports and charters, vetted and elected a new board member.
- Organizational policies were reviewed and updated as required.
- Continued partnership with Columbia Greene Workforce Investment Board, Hudson Valley Agribusiness Development Corp, Columbia Greene Media and the Center for Economic Growth.
- Partnered with the City of Hudson and Hudson Development Corporation on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative project.
- Participated in joint recruitment expos with Columbia Greene NY Workforce Employment Career Center & Columbia Greene Media. The two events drew over 100 employers and 360 job seekers.
- Applied and was approved for a \$5,000 grant from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to fund the proposed Junior Leadership Camp & Internship Program (joint venture with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce).
- Closed on 10 SBA Microloans totaling \$209,127 and 6 CEDC loans totaling \$167,572; Modified 6 loans; reviewed 17 loan requests; Approved for \$96,157 grant from the SBA for technical assistance
- Conducted annual MicroBusiness Seminar Series, graduated 12.
- Held annual members meeting, elected board members. Presented Columbia County Business Climate Survey presented by Siena College.
- Reviewed RFP's selected a consultant for the B&A Rail Trail Feasibility Study.
- Approved a \$5,000 grant to Hudson City School District for the YES Program.
- Completed 3rd phase of the Columbia County broadband project.