

Columbia Economic Development Corporation 2019 Mission Statement and Performance Measurement Report

Name of Public Authority:

Columbia Economic Development Corporation

Public Authority's Mission Statement:

- The mission of the Columbia Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) is to strengthen the area's tax base through economic development and job creation, to assist businesses to locate and expand within the County, and to promote Columbia County as a premier spot for both business investment and personal opportunity.

List of Performance Goals:

A. Educate local business owners, elected officials and other community representatives regarding the resources the CEDC has available to new and existing businesses in Columbia County. This includes public meetings in communities, press releases, marketing of the CEDC website, etc.

Accomplishments:

In 2019 CEDC:

- Met one-on-one with business owners.
- Monthly newsletters and e-blasts distributed to 1500 addresses.
- As Columbia County's designated Broadband Coordinator, staff attended multiple meetings and hearings and served as a resource hub for the planned expansion.
- Held the annual MicroBusiness Seminar Series, graduated 11 individuals who will be starting or expanding businesses.
- Held the CEDC Annual Meeting featuring as key speaker, Hugh Johnson, who discussed the economic forecast of the area.
- Published quarterly articles regarding economic development issues in the local media.
- Partnered with Columbia Greene NY Workforce Employment Career Center and the Columbia Greene Media to hold a spring recruitment expo.
- Assisted with CFA applications for several area businesses for the 2019 round of Consolidated Funding Applications.
- Continued key partnerships with: the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce; Hudson Development Corporation; Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corp; the Center for Economic Growth, Patterns for Progress, local utilities, profession service providers and area nonprofit organizations.

B. Continue to market and administer a revolving loan program including completion of required reporting, loan administration, assist businesses interested in securing financing, post loan closing, reporting, financial and

investment reporting.

Accomplishments:

- CEDC closed on 9 loans totaling \$440,000 as well as 8 SBA microloans totaling \$157,000. 24 Loan requests were reviewed. CEDC was granted \$120,000 in SBA technical assistance funding.
- Successfully completed an annual SBA audit with no significant findings.
- Provided technical assistance to over 75 small business owners.
- Ongoing administration of 60 loans.

C. Continue to work with all municipalities in Columbia County to assist with municipal infrastructure projects which will have an economic impact on local businesses including researching grant funding available, applications for grant funding and administration of grants secured.

Accomplishments:

- Designated Columbia County Broadband Coordinator for the ongoing expansion.
- Assisted in the ongoing City of Hudson Downtown Revitalization process.
- Working with the Columbia Land Conservancy, awarded grant to be used for a feasibility study of the Albany Boston Rail Trail. Awarded a contract for the feasibility study. Completed study, awaiting the final report.
- Working with the City of Hudson Housing Taskforce as well as the Columbia County Social Service Commissioner on housing issues.
- CEDC leading the efforts to promote the Energize NY PACE Program assisting businesses and residential property owners find energy cost savings.
- Continued administration of the CDBG grant for the Hudson Valley Creamery expansion grant as well as the CFA Goat Feasibility Study and the Drumlin Fields CDBG grant
- Provided assistance with local zoning application process.

D. Continue to work with all Columbia County organizations and departments to ensure all business issues are addressed (workforce training, business development, etc.).

Accomplishments:

- Applied for and was awarded a \$5,000 grant to expand the Junior Leaders Summer Camp, a joint project with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce. This year with the funding, the program was re-named the Junior Career Institute. 13 students graduated in early 2020 after completing the multi week course. These students will be paired with local businesses for a paid apprenticeships. Plans are underway to expand the program into Greene County, with the assistance of Greene County and the Columbia Greene Community College.

E. Continue marketing to entrepreneurs and businesses looking to start, expand and/or relocate to Columbia County.

Accomplishments:

- Marketing the annual Microbusiness Class targeted to entrepreneurs who will be starting or expanding their businesses.
- SBA technical assistance is available for qualifying current or expanding businesses.
- Partnership with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce
- Partnered with Columbia Greene NY Workforce Employment Career Center and the Columbia Greene Media to hold a spring recruitment expo in 2019.

F. Continue to improve CEDC office efficiency including reducing overhead expenses, improving monthly and annual reporting.

Accomplishments:

- Continuing to streamline bookkeeping and reporting by updating the monthly financial reports.
- Researched and purchased software programs integrating accounting functions and loan management functions.

G. Continue to assist businesses seeking to locate or expand in Columbia County.

Accomplishments:

- Participating in Workforce Roundtable discussions with the Chamber of Commerce, BOCES, School superintendents, Workforce NY and the Columbia-Greene Community College.
- Conducted 11 + site searches from Empire State Development and local businesses.
- Assisted Drumlin Fields with Zoning review process.

Additional questions:

Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the corporation? Yes.

Who has the power to appoint the management of the corporation? The Columbia Economic Development Corporation Board

If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the corporation? No

Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission. The Board (with participation from management) will develop the mission and continually evaluate and assess the goals and measurable to ensure the corporation is meeting its mission. The management will work to implement the

corporation's mission and continually monitor the goals and objectives with measurable to define the performance results to achieve the intended public purpose.

Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions? Yes.