

WCA in Action Recent & Significant Accomplishments

Resource & Relationship Building:

- **LAUNCHED BUSINESS INSIGHTS**, a virtual live-streamed speaker series featuring business experts on timely and topical issues in partnership with Westfair Communications
- **CURATED A NEW VIRTUAL EVENT SERIES** entitled Reopening Westchester to help bring critical information and resources to the community in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic
- **HOSTED NUMEROUS LEGISLATIVE FORUMS** with federal and statewide elected officials. Hosted members-only congressional primary debate focused on regional economic development and business issues in partnership with Journal News Media Group
- **FORMED THE WCA'S POST PANDEMIC WORKING GROUP**, a select committee of business, nonprofit, and academic leaders to address evolving challenges and opportunities, both created and highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic

General Business Advocacy:

- **EARLY ADVOCATE FOR MAJOR FEDERAL STIMULUS** addressing state and local grants, expansive, low-interest loans for local businesses, and direct relief for educational institutions and healthcare providers during advent of COVID-19 pandemic
- **ADDRESSED PUBLIC WORKS PREVAILING WAGE MANDATE** for development projects to ensure New York remains competitive and attractive for future growth
- **CALLED FOR MUCH-NEEDED REFORMS TO NEW YORK STATE'S OUTDATED LAND USE REGULATIONS**, which will help bolster smart growth across the region
- **FOSTERED CREATION OF COUNTY LOAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC)** to give nonprofit organizations access to low interest, tax-exempt financing for major capital projects
- **CONSISTENT AND LONG-TERM PROPONENT OF 5G** and small cell technology in New York state
- **SECURED LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING CORRECTIVE MEASURES** and ongoing accountability from health insurers resulting in \$60 million in premium refunds to area businesses
- **LED LOCAL EFFORTS** to pass two percent statewide property tax cap

Healthcare & Life Sciences:

- **HEIGHTENED MEMBER AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING** of critical healthcare legislation including single payer, mandated nurse staffing ratios, and Medicaid reform
- **HELPED SECURE CARES ACT FUNDING** for area healthcare providers during Covid-19 crisis
- **DEVELOPED ADVOCACY PLAN TO REIN IN HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS** by requiring greater accountability and transparency from the insurance carriers. Plan called for establishment of a “Healthcare Reinvestment Act” modeled after banking industry Community Reinvestment Act
- **TRAINED AND PLACED** hundreds of people to fill critical healthcare positions
- **LAUNCHED HEALTH TECH CONFERENCE SERIES** to elevate awareness and visibility of Westchester as a hub of healthcare and life science innovation driving sector specific investment and growth

Real Estate & Housing:

- **CREATED THE POLICY PLAYBOOK** with a range of effective land use policies and strategies to streamline and improve the planning, zoning and approval processes and help municipalities drive smart growth
- **FORMED A PUBLIC/PRIVATE COALITION** to help create an economically sustainable housing environment for Westchester’s workforce, thereby attracting and retaining more talent and businesses in the region
- **LAUNCHED THE BLUEPRINT FOR WESTCHESTER INITIATIVE**, a collaboration between Westchester’s business, real estate, academic and urban communities that became a catalyst for repurposing the 6 million sq. ft. of unoccupied Class A office space

Workforce Development:

- **MANAGED A MAJOR INITIATIVE** that trained and placed 400 jobseekers with 250 employers with a local annual economic impact of greater than \$20 million
- **HOSTED FIRST-IN-REGION WORKFORCE SUMMIT** to bring together hundreds of key stakeholders to address our region’s recruitment and retention challenges by sharing insights, innovative solutions and best practices
- **PUBLISHED THE EMPLOYER RESOURCE GUIDE** to help employers and employees capitalize on training and educational opportunities in the region – as well as vital support services in childcare, transportation, housing and healthcare

Join the **WESTCHESTER COUNTY ASSOCIATION** to become part of the most influential community of businesses and nonprofits in the region. Contact Christina Barry, Membership & Events Manager at cbarry@westchester.org or (914) 948-1860 to discuss membership today!