

Campaign Supporters

1199 Training & Upgrading Fund
BAC Local #1 CT
Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition
Capitol Region Education Council (CREC)
Capital Workforce Partners
Career Resources, Inc.
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT
Charter Oak State College
CT AFL-CIO
CT Association for Human Services
CT Association for Adult and Continuing Education
CT Legal Services
CT Puerto Rican Forum
CT Voices for Children
CT Workforce Development Council
CT Urban Libraries Council
CT Women's Education and Legal Fund
Christian Community Action
Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board
Family Services Woodfield, Inc.
Finishing Trades Institute of Southern New England, Inc.
Greater Hartford Legal Aid
Greater Hartford Literacy Council
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
Keeper Corporation
Legal Assistance Resource Center of CT
Literacy Volunteers of SE Fairfield County
Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford
Middlesex Chamber of Commerce
National Assoc. of Social Workers—CT Chapter
New Haven Legal Assistance
New London Public Schools
New Opportunities, Inc.
Northwestern Regional Workforce Investment Board
Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now, Inc.
Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
Regional Growth Partnership-New Haven
TEAM, Inc.
The Workplace, Inc.
Thames Valley Council for Community Action
United Community and Family Services
Windham Regional Community Council, Inc.
Workforce Alliance
The Workplace, Inc.

Campaign for a Working Connecticut

Developing workforce solutions for a stronger economy

Campaign Purpose

The Campaign for a Working Connecticut is a coalition with an aligned purpose: To promote the state's economic competitiveness through the development of sustainable, effective workforce solutions to increase workers' skills and advance families to self-sufficiency.

The Campaign's vision for Connecticut's workforce system spans traditional divides across agencies and funding streams to include a broad range of services to assist individuals to develop the skills they need to succeed personally and professionally. Building largely on the federally funded system, the Campaign seeks state resources to expand services, add flexibility, target gaps in current services, promote coordination and collaboration, improve accountability and address local needs for workforce development.

Connecticut's Workforce

Connecticut's economic success ultimately will depend on its ability to consistently produce a highly skilled workforce with the prerequisite basic and technical skills needed for the 21st century economy. Given CT's economic downturn, it is imperative that current workers and those that are unemployed are provided with training opportunities to help them maintain their jobs or get them back in the labor force.

Investments in key workforce education and development strategies can strengthen the state's economic health by supporting workers, employers, families and communities. Connecticut is experiencing workforce shortages in nursing, allied health and advanced manufacturing which threaten the state's infrastructure. By redirecting newly unemployed workers toward these high demand fields, the state can strengthen its workforce and generate needed tax revenues for cities and towns.

The strategic workforce investments called for by the Campaign will help in the state's economic recovery.

- Occupational Skills Training—invest **\$1,000,000** in building the technical skills of 500 individuals in key workforce shortage areas such as health care, manufacturing and technology. Currently individuals pursuing these training programs are not eligible for state or federal financial aid.
- Career Services—invest **\$1,000,000** to provide 1000 individuals with the employability and work/career readiness skills needed by CT employers. State resources are needed in addition to federal funding to serve the growing number of individuals seeking employment related services.
- Incumbent worker training—invest **\$1,500,000** in collaborative training, education and skills development programs among employers and the workforce development system for 500 workers. Connecticut companies need state support to train, upgrade and replace their current workforce and maintain their competitiveness. Each dollar invested is matched by private industry therefore exponentially increasing the value of the allocated resources.

These state investments will ensure that Connecticut weathers the economic storm and has laid the foundation for future growth.

For more information about the Campaign, contact Alice Pritchard at the CT Women's Education and Legal Fund 860-247-6090 or apritchard@cwealf.org