



Economic Development Newsletter March 2023

West Hartford Named One of the 'Top 25 Best Places to Live in the Northeast'

According to **Livability.com**, West Hartford ranks among the best places to live in the Northeast. The list, which was released this week, examines 2,300 cities to narrow down the very best places to live across the country. West Hartford ranked 16th and was the only Connecticut town that made the cut.

Livability mentions our “rich history and natural beauty”, sense of community and touts the West Hartford School District as “one of the country’s most highly-rated public school systems.” They go on to further explain that the Town has “plenty of fun and entertainment options that cater to a wide range of interests.”

We know that's right and it is thanks to the wonderful businesses and residents who call West Hartford home!

Read more about the ranking and view the entire list [here!](#)

West Hartford Greater Together Community Fund Now Accepting Grant Applications

The **West Hartford Greater Together Community Fund** Advisory Committee’s 2023 grant application process opened on March 5, 2023. Funding will be awarded to programs or projects that will improve or enhance the quality of life in West Hartford or otherwise contribute to address a direct need of the West Hartford community. The Advisory Committee will award up to five grants of up to \$5,000 each by mid-June 2023 with applications due by May 1.

Applications will be reviewed by the West Hartford Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee and must be submitted by May 1, 2023. Questions must be submitted by April 18, 2023 to westhartfordcommunityfund@gmail.com. Proposals will be selected and notified of awards by mid-June.

Interested applicants are invited, but not required, to attend a virtual information session to learn more about the West Hartford Greater Together Community Fund and the grant making process.

In advance of the information sessions, please register using the following links:

Tuesday, March 21st at 7:00-8:00PM or **Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 9:30-10:30AM**

Applications must be submitted through the following form: **2023 Application**. All grants are awarded at the sole discretion of the West Hartford Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee.

For ongoing updates and information, visit and follow the **WHGTCF Facebook Page**.

MyCT Savings Deadline is Fast Approaching

Businesses must register by March 30th!



Embrace the opportunity.

Help your employees build financial security and attract the new employees you need.

As businesses work to recover from the pandemic's financial impact, employees are looking for benefits that give them more financial security. In fact, **51% of Americans have increased concern about their retirement** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹

Here in Connecticut, more than 600,000 private-sector employees have no employer-sponsored retirement savings plan. **MyCT Savings was created by law to meet this urgent need.**

What is MyCT Savings?

MyCT Savings is an exciting, new retirement program that's sponsored by the state of Connecticut's Retirement Security Authority. Registering for this new program will be required for all qualified employers with five or more employees in Connecticut (at least five of whom have been paid more than \$5,000 in the calendar year) if they don't already offer a qualified retirement savings plan.²

This program is designed to help employees reach their financial goals with easy, automatic payroll contributions to a Roth IRA. And MyCT Savings comes at **no cost to employers**. That's good news for employers and employees.



MyCT Savings can benefit your business.

- **Free** for employers and **easy** to facilitate
- **Funded by** participant contributions
- Works smoothly with your **payroll process**
- Can help you **attract and retain** employees

Help improve worker satisfaction and productivity.

The Employee Benefit Research Institute, found a direct correlation between employers offering financial wellness initiatives and increased employee productivity and satisfaction.³

It's easy for employers to participate.

Your role is simply to facilitate the program and maintain accurate employee records. MyCT Savings provides seamless integration with your payroll process, even if there's an external provider. And registration is quick and easy.

Did you miss the March 8th Webinar?

On Wednesday, March 8th, the West Hartford Chamber of Commerce and the Town's Economic Development Division hosted an informative webinar with members of the State Comptroller's office to provide a comprehensive overview of the program and answered questions from participants. If you missed it, you can **click below to watch the webinar**.



Capital Workforce Partners Hosts Sector Partnership Meeting

Capital Workforce Partners hosted a meeting of the **Capital Area Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics Sector Partnership** on Wednesday, March 15th at United Way in Hartford. Across the country, and here in Connecticut in alignment with the Governor's Workforce Council's Strategic Plan, businesses are working together to create "regional sector partnerships". Sector partnerships are a way for multiple companies in a shared labor market region to come together around important issues and help create solutions to shared issues.

Any company that has a fleet and has a warehouse or a distribution center would qualify and are encouraged to join the TDL Partnership.

To learn more about how Capital Workforce Partners can help meet your needs, call 860-899-3523 or email **Mohamed Chaouki** at mchaouki@capitalworkforce.org.

Attention ARPA Small Business & Non-Profit Grant Awardees

Are you interested in sharing your story about how the grant you received has helped your business/organization? Let us know!

If interested, **West Hartford News** would like to highlight you and share your perspective! Please reach out to [Kristen Gorski](mailto:Kristen.Gorski@westhartfordct.gov) for more information.

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