



## **September 10 Free Employer Step Up Conference in Middletown Geared To Help Employers Benefit their Business**

WETHERSFIELD, August 7, 2015 – Middletown-area employers interested in learning more about the state's Subsidized Training and Employment Program (Step Up) as well as other available employer incentives and opportunities are invited to a free September 10 conference being held in Middlesex Community College's Chapman Hall, located at 100 Training Hill Road.

Registration and a continental breakfast begins at 7 a.m. for the 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. conference, which is being hosted by Mayor Daniel T. Drew, State Sen. Dante Bartolomeo, State Sen. Paul Doyle, State Rep. Christie Carpino, State Rep. Rep. Matthew Lesser, State Rep. Joseph Serra, and State Rep. Melissa Ziobron. It is also sponsored by Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, the Connecticut Department of Labor, the Department of Economic and Community Development, the state Workforce Investment Boards and a variety of organizations and other community partners.

"We are inviting every employer in the Middletown area to join us for this free informational conference," explains State Labor Commissioner Sharon M. Palmer. "Opportunities and benefits available to your business – including funds for manufacturing apprenticeships, grants to train your current workforce, low interest financing under the Small Business Express Program, guidelines about the new health care requirements, wage reimbursements and training grants for hiring new employees, and job expansion tax credits – are all offered by the state and are designed to benefit your business."

Four additional conferences are scheduled this fall. Gateway Community College in New Haven will be the site of a September 15 event, followed by a September 17 conference in New Milford's United Bank Building. On September 22, EASTCONN in Hampton will host an event, while the final conference for the season will be September 24 at Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport.

For planning purposes, employers are asked to pre-register online by visiting [www.StepCT.com](http://www.StepCT.com) while those with questions about the Middletown Step Up conference can contact Eleanor Lennon at (860) 263-6731 or at [eleanor.lennon@ct.gov](mailto:eleanor.lennon@ct.gov). Employers are asked to pre-register by September 9.

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