



Helping Your Business ... Work! **Jan. 26 Event At Housatonic Community College**

WETHERSFIELD, January 18, 2018 – Area business people, state labor and education representatives, and local legislators will provide information about a variety of programs, services and incentives to benefit employers and their employees at the *Helping Your Business ... Work!* Forum, 8 to 10 a.m. January 26 at Housatonic Community College.

Geared for manufacturers and small business owners, this event is being hosted by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and area Legislators. Topics will include Connecticut's Apprenticeship program, funding opportunities, and financial incentive programs to benefit employers and their employees.

Legislative leaders at the forum include Senator Ed Gomes, Senator Marilyn Moore, Representative Bob Godfrey, Representative Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Representative Patricia Miller and Representative Christopher Rosario. Speakers include Tom Auray, Vice President of Bridgeport Fittings Inc.; Business Services Representatives from the Labor Department; and Tracy Ariel, Director of Advanced Manufacturing & CT ECO Programs, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities.

At the event, attendees will:

- Hear from colleagues who have successfully utilized Connecticut's Apprenticeship program to develop a skilled and competitive workforce.
- Discover available funding and financial incentive programs to build their business, including Manufacturing Innovation Fund initiatives.
- Find out how to partner with Connecticut Community Colleges and Universities to help meet workforce needs.
- Learn about no-cost incentives, training programs and services the Connecticut Department of Labor offers to businesses.

The event will be held in the school's second floor Beacon Hall, Meeting Rooms A and B. The college is located at 900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport. Please RSVP to Carolyn Treiss, or contact her for additional information at carolyn.treiss@ct.gov or 860-263-6524.

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