

**Columbia Economic Development Corporation
2025 Mission Statement and Performance Measurement Report**

Name of Public Authority:

Columbia Economic Development Corporation

Public Authority's Mission Statement:

- The mission of the Columbia Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) is to strengthen the area's tax base through economic development and job creation, to assist businesses to locate and expand within the County, and to promote Columbia County as a premier spot for both business investment and personal opportunity.

List of Performance Goals:

A. Educate local business owners, elected officials and other community representatives and members regarding the resources CEDC offers to new and existing businesses in Columbia County. This includes public meetings in communities, press releases, marketing of the CEDC website, CEDC monthly newsletter etc.

Accomplishments:

In 2025 CEDC:

- Provided technical assistance to 130 business owners.
- Monthly newsletters and e-blasts distributed to 3700 addresses.
- Continued key partnerships with: Columbia County and its Municipalities, the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce; Hudson Development Corporation; Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corp; the Center for Economic Growth, Patterns for Progress, Columbia Greene Community College, Columbia County IDA and the City of Hudson IDA, The Columbia County Land Bank, local utilities, professional service providers and area nonprofit organizations within Columbia County.
- Provided a 4 week business training class graduating 13 Columbia County entrepreneurs.
- Attended and sponsored and participated in local events spotlighting area businesses.

B. Continue to administer and market two revolving loan programs one funded by the SBA and one funded by CEDC. The programs focus on eligible small business loans in Columbia County with SBA loans available to eligible Columbia and Greene County businesses.

Accomplishments:

In 2025 CEDC:

- CEDC closed on 37 loans (20 SBA microloans totaling \$495,500, and 17 CEDC loans totaling \$428,207).
- Closed on a \$1 million loan from the SBA to be used for Columbia and Greene County Microloans.
- Successfully completed an annual SBA review with no significant findings.
- Provided technical assistance to 130 small business owners.
- Ongoing administration of 171 loans.
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C. Continue to work with all municipalities in Columbia County to assist with projects which will have an economic impact on localities, including researching grant funding available, applications for grant funding and administration of grants secured.

Accomplishments:

- Continued as Columbia County Broadband Coordinator. As Columbia County's designated Broadband Coordinator, staff attended meetings and hearings and served as a resource hub. CEDC engaged a company to validate underserved addresses of Columbia County relating to broadband accessibility. This data continues to be updated.
- Working with the City of Hudson Housing Taskforce, Columbia County as well as the Columbia County Land Bank on housing issues.
- Provided administrative services for Columbia County (Microenterprise), the City of Hudson (Return Brewing) and the Village of Kinderhook (building rehabilitation) on their CDBG grants.
- Contracted with the City of Hudson IDA to provide their administrative services for them. Completed annual reporting and compliance for 2024.
- Assisted them with their review on the Providence Hall and Schuyler Court housing project; the 75 North 7th Street Project with application changes.
- Provided analysis and information re: Pennrose NY Developer LLC Project, Cassetta/Hudson Mansion Partners and Top of Warren Street Property Bros. LLC. Applications and public hearings were held in and approved in 2025.
- Continued the administration of the Columbia County IDA with their existing projects and began review on an affordable housing project to be located in the town of Greenport, NY; assisted with the application process and public hearing for the 27 Summitt Street project.
- Continued to administer the Columbia County Capital Resource Corporation.
- Provided assistance to Columbia County with their solar project application administration

D. Continue to work with Columbia County organizations and departments to ensure all business issues are addressed (workforce training, business development, affordable housing, etc.).

Accomplishments:

- CEDC managed the Columbia County the Columbia Forward Program with an associated loan and grant funding. Columbia County small businesses who have been in business for two years, employ 25 or fewer people, and are credit eligible are asked to apply to CEDC for a loan of up to and including \$25,000. Grants of up to 10% of the amount borrowed are available for equipment, working capital, employee training or inventory.
- CEDC and the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce as part of Columbia County's Columbia Forward program hosted free business workshops, training and networking events and information regarding federal and NYS grant opportunities.
- Continue to work with and support the Columbia County Land Bank, in the development of affordable housing development.

E. Continue marketing to entrepreneurs and businesses seeking to expand and/or relocate to Columbia County.

Accomplishments:

- SBA technical assistance is available for qualifying current or expanding businesses.
- Partnership with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce and Columbia County.
- Responded to calls for information regarding available properties and business sites in Columbia County.
- Expanded outreach efforts by utilizing social media and monthly newsletters

F. Continue to improve CEDC office efficiency including reducing overhead expenses, improving monthly and annual reporting.

Accomplishments:

- Continuing to streamline bookkeeping and reporting by updating the monthly financial reports.
- Utilize software programs integrating accounting functions and loan management functions, including an online client portal.
- Utilize technologies to enable the continuation of holding meetings remotely and in person in compliance with current laws and regulations.

G. Continue to assist businesses seeking to locate or expand in Columbia County.

Accomplishments:

- Participating in Workforce Roundtable discussions with the Chamber of Commerce, BOCES, school superintendents, Workforce NY and Columbia-Greene Community College.
- Conducted site searches.
- Assisted businesses with planning and zoning review process.

Additional questions:

Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the corporation?

Who has the power to appoint the management of the corporation? The Columbia Economic Development Corporation Board

If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the corporation? No

Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission. The Board (with participation from management) will develop the mission and continually evaluate and assess the goals and measurables to ensure the corporation is meeting its mission. Management will work to implement the corporation's mission and continually monitor the goals and objectives with measurables to define the performance results to achieve the intended public purpose.

Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions?