

**THE Commercial Real Estate  
and Building Industry Breakfast**

**APRIL 30, 2026  
7:30 - 10:00 A.M.  
CONNECTICUT CONVENTION CENTER**



# **BUILDING FOUNDATIONS**

Join us for the 6th Annual Building Foundations Breakfast as we come together to raise resources to prevent children and families from becoming homeless and to secure stable housing for those living in shelters.

**This is the signature event of the year for the commercial real estate and building industry and you don't want to miss it!**



**ONWARD860** >>>  
United to End Poverty



**UNITED WAY**  
Central and Northeastern  
Connecticut

In early 2021, a diverse group of commercial real estate and building industry professionals, came together to create the Building Foundations Breakfast. The goal was to bring the industry together to prevent and address homelessness in partnership with United Way. Since that time, the event has raised more than **\$2 million** to support programs and services in Greater Hartford.

This is THE event for the commercial real estate and building industry and has grown every year since inception. The event began with 100 attendees for the inaugural breakfast in 2021 and has grown to host more than 500 members of the industry.

**The funds raised ensured that:**

- 1,270 people were supported to stay in stable housing
- 278 people accessed emergency shelter accommodations
- Information and referral services through United Way 211 continued to be funded; and
- Two (2) students at Covenant Preparatory School in Hartford have their tuition fully paid each year they attend the school

Annually, at the Building Foundations event, we honor the memory of the late Jeff Digel for his commitment to the profession and the community with an award in his name.

Jeff helped to start Covenant Preparatory School in Hartford and each year, a portion of the proceeds from Building Foundations are donated in his honor.

## THE Commercial Real Estate and Building Industry Breakfast



# BUILDING FOUNDATIONS



# REMEMBERING JEFFREY DIGEL



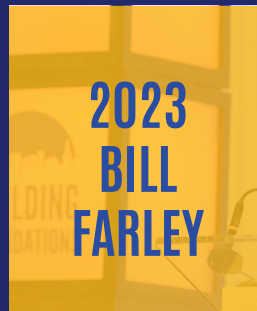
Real estate combined Jeff Digel's interest in architecture, finance, geography and economic systems. As he built his career, Jeff was drawn to the investment side of the business. He co-founded and served as Executive Vice President for iStar Financial Inc., where he helped build the company's investment team and originate more than \$3 billion in structured finance assets. He went on to Figure Eight Properties where he formed a company that brought personal, concierge-level services to his clients. Jeff was equally committed to philanthropy and community action. He was the co-founder and first chairman of the board of Covenant Preparatory School, an independent, interfaith, tuition-free middle school for boys from under-served families in the Hartford Area. Jeff also served on nonprofit boards for organizations including: Charter Oak Cultural Center, Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity of North Central Connecticut and Achievement First Hartford Academy.

Annually, at the Building Foundations event, we present the Jeff Digel Award to a member of the industry who embodies the characteristics of Jeff's Legacy of having made a great commitment to both the real estate profession, and making a meaningful impact on the community.

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE JEFFREY DIGEL AWARD



**2022**  
**ALAN**  
**LAZOWSKI**



**2023**  
**BILL**  
**FARLEY**



**2024**  
**Martin J.**  
**Kenny**



**2025**  
**Michael W.**  
**Freimuth**



The 2025 Building Foundations committee is accepting nominations for the 2025 Jeffrey Digel Award. Please contact Maura Cook at [mcook@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:mcook@unitedwayinc.org) to submit your recommendations.

# 2025 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT-A-GLANCE

	PRESENTING	NETWORKING	TECHNOLOGY	DIAMOND	EMERALD	MEDIA	PREMIUM	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Investment	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,750
Name in title of event and signage	✓										
Media interviews	✓										
30 second commercial at the beginning of event	✓										
Branded swag	At the tables	Networking area									
Name on mobile giving technology/event video	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Digital sponsor profile	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Name recognition during event	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Ad in program book (print)	Two Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Half	Half	Half
Digital and social media recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Logo in program book, event presentation and event materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ads on social media	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Event tickets	30	20	20	20	20	20	10	10	10	3	2

## PROGRAM AD SPECIFICATIONS

Deadline: April 1, 2026

Full page ad:

4.5" (w) x 7.5" (h)

Half page ad:

4.5" (w) x 3.5" (h)

## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

### Founding Members:

Edmund Kindelan, Retired, Cohn Reznick  
Michael Riccio, CBRE  
Dave Soule, Smith Brothers  
Mark Vasington, Retired, First American Title Insurance Company  
Mark Duclos, Sentry Commercial  
Nando Parete, Cigna  
Brian Zelman, Zelman Real Estate

### Members:

Christopher Arnold, Liberty Bank  
Vincent Bergin, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority  
Erin Cabelus, CATIC  
Jane Davey, LAZ Investments  
Barrie Deschaine, KBE Building  
Kevin Dowd, Harrington Law  
Jessica Dziob, Phase Zero Design  
Greg Faulkner, Robinson+Cole

Melissa Ferrucci, CohnReznick  
Mike Kolakowski, KBE Building  
Nate Kirschner, Hillwood Realty  
James Lane, Webster Bank  
Melissa Roy, Tecton Architects  
Josh Sullivan, Standard Builders  
Kerry Wood, Charter Realty I  
Zelco Properties & Development

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## PRESENTING SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$25,000

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY!

- Your name in the title of the event in all communications, promotions and marketing for all aspects of the event
- Company name recognition on stage throughout the duration of the event
- Participation in a 30 second commercial presented at the start of the event
- Branded swag with your logo at every table
- Participate in radio and/or television interviews (pending booking opportunities)
- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- Name on mobile giving technology and event video
- Two full page ads in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 30 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## NETWORKING SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$15,000

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY!

- Branded swag with your logo in the networking area
- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- Name on mobile giving technology and event video
- One full page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 20 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## TECHNOLOGY SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$15,000

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY!

- Name on mobile giving technology and event video
- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- One full page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 20 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## DIAMOND SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$15,000

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- Name on event video
- One full page ad in program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 20 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## EMERALD SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$12,500

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- One full page ad in program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 20 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## MEDIA SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$12,500

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY!

- Name on mobile giving technology and event video
- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- One full page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 20 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## PREMIUM SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$10,000

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- Digital sponsor spotlight
- Name recognition during event
- One full page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 10 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## PLATINUM SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$7,500

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- Name recognition during event
- One full page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 10 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## GOLD SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$5,000

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- One half page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 10 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## SILVER SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$2,500

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- One half page ad in printed program book
- Digital and social media recognition
- Paid ads on social media
- 3 event tickets
- Logo in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials

## BRONZE SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$1,750

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

- One half page ad in printed program book
- 2 event tickets
- Company name in sponsor listing in program book, event presentation and event materials



For sponsorship questions please email  
Gail Millerick at [gmilleric@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:gmilleric@unitedwayinc.org).





**UNITED WAY**  
Central and Northeastern  
Connecticut



## SPONSORSHIP CONFIRMATION FORM

### SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Deadline: Rolling

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting: \$25,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking: \$15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology: \$15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond: \$15,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Media: \$12,500      | <input type="checkbox"/> Emerald: \$12,500    | <input type="checkbox"/> Premium: \$10,000    | <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum: \$7,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gold: \$5,000        | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver: \$2,500      | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze: \$1,750      |  |

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

If you select "bill me" or "credit card", United Way's Finance Team will contact you directly to make a secure payment arrangement.

☐ Payment is enclosed

Please make checks payable to  
United Way - Note: 860Cares

☐ Bill Me

Please bill me at the  
address below

☐ Credit Card

### ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

NOTE: Name will appear in printed materials as provided below.

Name

Address

Email

Phone number

### ORGANIZATION CONTACTS

NOTE: If different from above

Name

Address

Email

Phone number

Please provide your business/organization's high-resolution logo in a JPG, PNG or EPS format when submitting this confirmation form. Thank you!

Questions? Contact Gail Millerick at [gmillerick@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:gmillerick@unitedwayinc.org)

Please submit this registration form electronically to [gmillerick@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:gmillerick@unitedwayinc.org)

or mail to United Way, One State Street, Suite 1710 Hartford, CT 06103

