

THE Commercial Real Estate  
and Building Industry Breakfast

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



# BUILDING FOUNDATIONS

Presented by



TRAMMELL CROW RESIDENTIAL  
A CROW HOLDINGS COMPANY

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



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 inaugural breakfast event began in 2021 with 100 attendees (virtual due to the Pandemic), and has grown to host more than 500 members of the industry..

**The funds raised ensured that:**

- 2,560 people were supported to stay in stable housing
- 928 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

## 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.

## 2026 JEFFREY DIGEL AWARD RECIPIENT: **ANDY BESSETTE**

Andy Besette is Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer for Travelers. He is responsible for Corporate Real Estate, Corporate Procurement, Administrative Services, Community Relations and Event Management, among other corporate groups. He is also responsible for sports sponsorships, including the company's official marketing partnership with the PGA TOUR and title sponsorship of the Travelers Championship, for which he serves on the board of the Greater Hartford Community Foundation.

He is a member of the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees, chairs its Financial Affairs Committee and serves on the Board of Directors of the University of Connecticut Health Center. Besette is Chair of the MetroHartford Alliance Board of Directors and Vice Chairman of the Capital Region Development Authority. He sits on the board of AdvanceCT and Greater MSP. He is a corporator for Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center and serves on the Board of Governors for Hartford Hospital. A member of the 1980 United States Olympic Team, he continues to support Olympic Committee activities. Besette holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree from the University of Rhode Island.



# 2026 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT-A-GLANCE

	PRESENTING	NETWORKING	TECHNOLOGY	DIAMOND	EMERALD	MEDIA	PREMIUM	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Investment	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$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	Two Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Half	Half	Half
Digital and social media recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Logo in program, event presentation and event materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Company name in program											✓
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  
 Dave Soule, Smith Brothers  
 Mark Vasington, Retired, First American Title Insurance Company  
 Michael Riccio, CBRE  
 Mark Duclos, Sentry Commercial  
 Nando Parete, Cigna  
 Brian Zelman, Zelman Real Estate

### Members:

Christopher Arnold, Liberty Bank  
 Vincent Bergin, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority  
 Jeremy Browning, Trio Properties  
 Erin Cabelus, CATIC  
 Jane Davey, LAZ Investments  
 Barrie Deschaine, KBE Building  
 Kevin Dowd, Harrington Law  
 Andrea Gomes, Hinckley Allen

Greg Faulkner, Robinson+Cole  
 Melissa Ferrucci, CohnReznick  
 Kevin Kenny, Lexington Partners  
 Mike Kolakowski, KBE Building  
 Nate Kirschner, Bohler  
 James Lane, Webster Bank  
 Melissa Roy, EDM Studio  
 Kerry Wood, Charter Realty

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## PRESENTING SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$25,000

INDUSTRY 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: \$20,000

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, event presentation and event materials

## TECHNOLOGY SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$20,000

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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, event presentation and event materials

## BRONZE SPONSOR

INVESTMENT: \$1,750

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

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



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



## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Deadline: Rolling

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting: \$25,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking: \$20,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology: \$20,000 | <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.

- |  |  |                                      |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Payment is enclosed<br>Please make checks payable to<br>United Way - Note: BF2026 | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Me<br>Please bill me at the<br>address below | <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|

## ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

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

<input type="text"/>	
Name	
<input type="text"/>	
Address	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email	Phone number

## ORGANIZATION CONTACTS

NOTE: If different from above

<input type="text"/>	
Name	
<input type="text"/>	
Address	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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 [gmilleric@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:gmilleric@unitedwayinc.org)

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

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