



COLUMBUS[★]
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

President and Chief Executive Officer
Position Profile | May 2024

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ABOUT THE CHAMBER



THE COLUMBUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

OUR VISION

To be the leader and driving force in building a prospering economy for the Columbus Region.

OUR MISSION

To drive prosperity and growth in the Columbus Region Business Community through connections, resources and advocacy.

The Columbus Chamber of Commerce is a mission-driven nonprofit organization serving more than 2,300 organizations throughout the Columbus Region. The Columbus Chamber, founded in 1884, is committed to advancing a thriving business community and provides support in the areas of research, government affairs, marketing, diversity, culture, and inclusion, education, and talent and workforce development.



CONVENE

We bring the Columbus Region together to network and drive the business culture



NAVIGATE

We help members solve business problems, recognize opportunities, and create solutions



ADVOCATE

We champion policies that help the business community grow and thrive

ABOUT THE CHAMBER (continued)

OUR VALUES

Our values system is the internal compass that informs our way to working.

- ★ **BUSINESS COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS:** We actively support the interest of the Columbus Region business community
- ★ **COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE:** We are dedicated to achieving the highest standards of quality, performance, and professionalism
- ★ **INCLUSIVE:** We build and maintain culture, systems, policies, and practices that are considerate of the various dimensions of human differences
- ★ **CONFIDENT YET COMPASSIONATE:** We balance self-assurance and empathy
- ★ **CURIOUS COLLABORATORS:** We understand the value of teamwork and create environments where everyone is empowered to contribute their unique insights

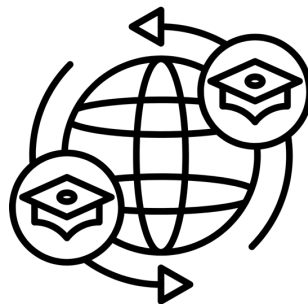


COLUMBUS CHAMBER FOUNDATION



Prosperity and Growth Fund

We distribute pass-through funds to assist small business owners with unforeseen financial burdens that pose barriers to business growth.



Programming

We offer talent solutions, business navigation, and leadership skill-building programs that position small businesses to compete and grow.



Scholarships and Certifications

We cover the cost of participating in specific business navigation and leadership skill-building programs to help close the economic equity gap for small business owners.

WHAT WE DO

At the Columbus Chamber, we drive initiatives and provide business solutions, services, and support to fuel the growth of businesses in the Columbus Region.
Your Business is Our Business.



Business Connections

★ **BUSINESS CONNECTIONS** We're the movers and the shakers in the Columbus business world. It's our job to connect Columbus Chamber members with the resources they need to help their businesses thrive and make our community a better place. We recognize that our members sometimes need help navigating all of our services; we're the savvy, business-minded go-getters that make that happen.



Diversity, Culture, and Inclusion

★ **DIVERSITY, CULTURE, AND INCLUSION** Our Columbus Region community is vibrant and diverse. We believe businesses should reflect that rich diversity in their inclusive workplaces with equitable policies, programs, and practices. This charge is right for society and the economy.



Government Relations

★ **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS** Through resilient policy advocacy, the Columbus Chamber of Commerce engages with civic leaders and public officials on behalf of the business community. Our efforts help ensure economic prosperity and equity to advance business opportunities throughout the region. The Columbus Chamber frequently monitors public policy, and when appropriate, takes positions on legislation that may either positively impact business or impede on a business's ability to function or operate.



Small Business Support

★ **SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT** 80 percent of our member businesses have 50 employees or less. We are here to help small businesses open the door to connections and resources with our Small Business Support.



Talent and Workforce

★ **TALENT AND WORKFORCE** In Talent and Workforce Development, we specialize in Consulting, Connecting, and Convening to help our members throughout the employee/employer lifecycle. From everything including hiring, onboarding, upskilling, retention strategies, benefits, and more, we are the business community's hub for workforce solutions. We consult, we connect, and we convene.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to drive prosperity and growth in the Columbus Region Business Community through connections, resources, and advocacy.

THE OPPORTUNITY

THE OPPORTUNITY

The Columbus Chamber of Commerce is the epicenter of Columbus' small business community. Within our interconnected ecosystem, businesses unite to eliminate barriers to prosperity, creating a thriving environment for enterprises across the Columbus Region. Together, we make our region an exceptional business destination.

Building on the success of the retiring leader, the Columbus Chamber of Commerce is seeking a dynamic and visionary professional to serve as its next President and Chief Executive Officer. This leader will continue to elevate the Chamber's role as a key collaborator and convener throughout the broader Columbus region, ensuring it remains a central entity in business, community, and regional development. The CEO will innovate and enhance member engagement, build upon the Chamber's financial health and operational success, and serve as a critical influencer in promoting regional prosperity.

The next CEO will understand the unique business landscape of Columbus, effectively engaging and recognizing the needs of businesses of all sizes, from small local businesses to major corporate entities. This pivotal role requires an inclusive and transparent leader dedicated to advancing the Chamber's strategic vision, goals, and Diversity, Culture, and Inclusion efforts. This leader will support and develop partnerships with economic development, workforce, advocacy and regional planning organizations to foster an inclusive and prosperous business community.

Exhibiting significant business and political savvy, the CEO will be an advocate for Chamber members, skillfully connecting government policy to member impact, and informing local and state officials about key business issues and their application in public policy.

Supported by a strong team, the CEO will evaluate and innovate Chamber programs, fostering growth through engagement with Chamber members, community leaders, external partners, and the Board of Directors.



THE OPPORTUNITY *, continued*

KEY PRIORITIES

Regional Impact: Elevate the role of the Chamber in helping shape the regional growth agenda to the benefit of its members and the broader region.

Community Collaboration: Convene Chamber members to help drive impactful regional issues; strengthen collaboration with major community entities like the Columbus Partnership, One Columbus, Urban League and other regional Chambers to support the region.

Government Relations: Strengthen the Chamber's engagement with city, county and state officials to inform policies that benefit its members and broader business and economic initiatives.

Diversity, Culture, and Inclusion: Continue to advance the Chamber's Diversity, Culture, and Inclusion efforts, making it a leader in fostering an inclusive business community.

Member Engagement and Growth: Focus on increasing the Chamber's membership while maintaining high levels of engagement and satisfaction for current members.

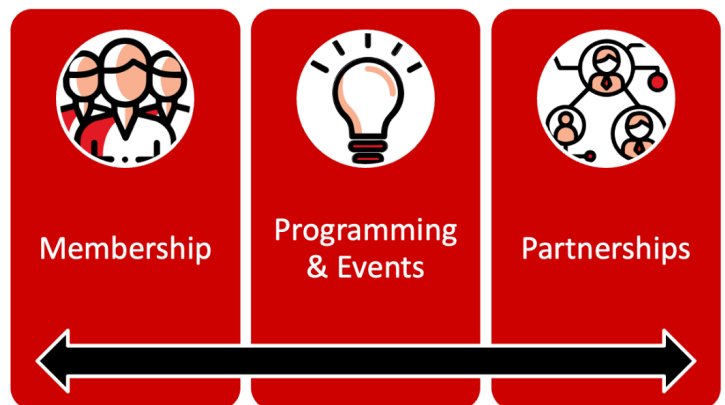
Workforce Development: Build upon the Chamber's ongoing efforts and partnerships to develop and attract a high-performing and diverse workforce to the region.

Innovation in Services: Create and offer innovative and value-add programs and services to meet the evolving needs of small and medium businesses; review, assess, and improve upon existing Chamber programs and events to maximize impact and retention.



Operational and Financial Oversight: Ensure the Chamber operates on a financially sound basis, continuing the trend of stable financial management.

Board Governance: Collaborate with the Board of Directors and provide the leadership, information and analysis to help them fulfill their fiduciary and governance responsibilities; further elevate Board engagement through strategic discussion and decision-making.



ATTRIBUTES AND QUALIFICATIONS

KEY COMPETENCIES AND ATTRIBUTES

- ★ **Visionary leadership:** Capable of driving the mission forward and embracing Chamber's and future opportunities
- ★ **Community focused:** Strong ties within the Columbus area and broader region, or the ability to quickly establish such connections
- ★ **Partnership builder:** Able to represent the Chamber across different platforms and gatherings, enhancing its visibility, influence and strategic partnerships
- ★ **Market knowledge:** Understands economic trends and the business landscape of the Columbus region; brings regional perspective and ability to affect the broader regional growth agenda
- ★ **Inclusivity and openness:** Values the Chamber's ongoing Diversity, Culture, and Inclusion work and ensures the Chamber remains a place for all businesses
- ★ **Innovative mindset:** Continuously seeks to implement new programs and services that add value to membership
- ★ **Strong business acumen:** Knowledgeable in financial and operational management to sustain growth and stability



DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- ★ Minimum of 10 years in a leadership role within a relevant field
- ★ Bachelor's degree required
- ★ Able to quickly and meaningfully engage with a broad constituency including public and private entities, large, medium, and small businesses, non-profit, economic development and other civic organizations
- ★ Demonstrated passion for community and regional development
- ★ Working knowledge of political and legislative practices
- ★ Strong financial and operational acumen
- ★ Board reporting experience strongly desired
- ★ Superior interpersonal skills
- ★ Demonstrated high integrity
- ★ Energetic, flexible and able to thrive in a fluid and changing environment
- ★ Proven leader; able to motivate and develop a dedicated team of professionals

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Ruscilli

Chair
President
Ruscilli Construction

Derrick Clay

Vice Chair
Senior Vice
President
Shumaker Advisors

K.L. Allen, Ed.D.

Chancellor
WGU Ohio

Jeremy Banta

Program
Coordinator –
Supply Chain
Management
Columbus State
Community College

Elizabeth Blount

McCormick
President
Uniglobe Travel
Designers

Deb Boiarsky

Chief Operating
Partner
Porter Wright

Darnita Bradley

Senior Manager
Local Government
Affairs & External
Engagement
JobsOhio

John Daly

President
Royal Document
Destruction

Josh Demidovich

Executive Co Owner
CK Green Partners

Monica Dominic

Chief Client Officer
PSI Proteam
Solutions

Brandon Dupler

Principal
Dupler Office

Sean Grant

Chief Administrative
Officer
The Columbus
Partnership & One
Columbus

Chris Guilliams

Columbus Office
Audit and Assurance
Leader
Deloitte

Brian Hall, CPCU

Partner
Overmyer Hall
Associates

Tom Harris

Senior Vice
President, Business
Engineering
CGI

Craig Hawley

SVP, Retirement
Solutions
Nationwide
Financial

Kurt Hoeft

CEO
EasyIT

Mark Kovacevich

Senior Vice
President,
Integrations
Improving

Jill Kuhlman

Chief Administrative
Officer
FST Logistics, Inc.

**Catherine Lang-
Cline**

President
Portfolio Creative

Dan Like, MHA

Chief Administrative
Officer, Ambulatory
Services
The Ohio State
University Wexner
Medical Center

Keith Martinez

Columbus Office
Managing Partner
Plante Moran

Joseph Miller

Partner, Litigation
Group Chair
Vorys, Sater,
Seymour and Pease
LLP

Brandon Nelson

Market Executive –
Commercial
Banking
J.P. Morgan Chase

Bill Nolan

Columbus
Managing Partner
Barnes & Thornburg
LLP

Vince Parisi

President and Chief
Operating Officer
Columbia Gas of
Ohio

Robyn Pollina

Chief Executive
Officer
Palmer-Donavin

Sara Robertson

Partner
GBQ Partners LLC

Catherine Strauss

Office Managing
Partner
Ice Miller

Dawn Tyler Lee

Founder and CEO
Forrest Street
Consulting

Greg Ubert

Founder & President
Crimson Cup Coffee
& Tea

Sue Zazon

Central Ohio Region
President
Huntington Bank

THE COLUMBUS REGION



The second-largest city and fastest-growing metropolitan area in the Midwest, Columbus is a vibrant and diverse place to live and work. Filled with arts, culture, entertainment, and an energetic workforce – you're guaranteed to fall in love.

Intel recently announced Central Ohio would be the future home of its most advanced semiconductor manufacturing facilities in the world. The project brings a historic \$20B capital investment promising 3,000 direct jobs and tens of thousands of additional indirect jobs statewide.

The 14th largest city in the US and growing, Columbus has numerous strategic planning efforts underway. A proposed \$2B upgrade and new terminal addition to **John Glenn Columbus International Airport (CMH)** will significantly boost capacity and ease customer commutes.

Columbus is centrally located within a one-day drive or one-hour flight to nearly half the population of the U.S. and Canada. Destinations within a one-day drive include Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Nashville, New York City, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Washington D.C. and Toronto.

The capital city has rapidly gained a reputation as an up-and-coming **culinary destination**. The incredible culinary scene features top-ranked chefs, award-winning restaurant groups (including **Cameron Mitchell Restaurants**), a rich farm-to-table movement, and one-of-a-kind restaurants and bars.

Neighborhoods surrounding downtown are bursting with activities and artists are shaping new areas into dynamic spaces to explore. Whether you seek a bustling urban loft or a quiet suburban home, Columbus has a neighborhood for you. No matter where you live, you won't spend your time commuting, the average downtown commute is less than 25 minutes.

Columbus boasts more than 26 colleges, universities, and technical schools, with the nation's second-highest number of college students per capita. The Ohio State University, located just north of downtown and the **Short North Arts District**, leads enrollment with more than 66,000 students. The metropolitan area's K-12 education options include schools ranked by U.S. News & World Report as top U.S. high schools.

PROCESS OF CANDIDACY



The Columbus Chamber of Commerce is an equal opportunity employer.



PROCESS OF CANDIDACY

BeecherHill is pleased to partner with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce on this important search. Please submit nominations, referrals and resumes with preferred contact information to our Firm:

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President

Caroline Manahan

Director

ColumbusChamberCEO@BeecherHillsearch.com

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