

Town of Islip, Suffolk County, the Long Island Association (LIA), and local Chambers of Commerce and Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs).

The Workforce and Education work group of the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council (LIREDC) met this summer to review prospective project proposals for the upcoming fifth round of program funding. The working group is co-chaired by John Durso-President of the Long Island Federation of Labor, Dr. Hubert Keen-President of SUNY Farmingdale, and me. The College has submitted proposals eight times since 2011 as part of this funding competition, and has received four awards totaling over $548,000 during that time.

In June, we were a presenter at the Town of Islip's 5th Annual Summit, which focuses on industry needs and helps support successful growth within the Town. Topics covered during the presentation included: career sustainability, industry clusters, College-industry partnerships, and training the workforce of the future. We highlighted the efforts of the College's Advanced Manufacturing Training Center and its Corporate Training Center, including our newest training initiative for the pharmaceutical industry that emphasizes programs for quality awareness and control, ESL and computer graphics. This initiative is currently being piloted with LNK International under a SUNY Workforce grant.



The Office of Workforce and Economic Development continued to support growth within the Aerospace and Defense sectors, especially with many small- to medium-sized subcontractors.

Taken altogether, these efforts continue to support our vision of transforming lives by delivering programs that meet the varied needs of our regional workforce.

Veterans Services

Suffolk County Community College has a long history of assisting Veterans in maximizing their benefits and achieving their educational goals. During the past academic year, the College made significant strides in improving student life for our Veterans.



During the week surrounding Veterans Day, various College activities took place. These included having a special guest speaker from the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America visit the Michael J. Grant Campus; inviting representatives from the Northport VA Medical Center to provide medical exams and benefit information to Veterans at the Ammerman Campus; hosting Student Veterans to discuss their experiences in the military on the Eastern Campus; and arranging a flag raising ceremony by the Student Veterans Association, which was followed by a special Veterans breakfast. The week concluded with a college-wide Veterans Day ceremony, which included remarks by the first Ammerman Student Veterans Association president, Oscar Salgado, and the inaugural challenge coin presentation to our student Veterans.

In April, the College hosted "Empowering Defenders of our Freedom" a daylong Veterans career conference. The program featured a keynote address by widely acclaimed inspirational speaker and wounded Marine Officer Justin Constantine, a human resources panel that provided expert advice on finding employment, and opportunities to meet with "veteran mentors" from companies in financial services, health care, pharmaceuticals, and many other industry areas. The conference program was designed to empower Veterans with the knowledge and skills required to complete a successful transition to college life or the workforce.