



## City of Stamford FY26-27 Budget Request Unaffiliated Organizations

### **Mission Statement**

The Stamford Partnership convenes leaders across business, government, and the community to advance Stamford's economic vitality, quality of life, and long-term prosperity for all who live and work in the city.

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### **Mission Pillars (What We Do)**

#### 1. Economic Growth & Business Vitality

- Support business attraction, retention, and expansion
- Strengthen Stamford's competitiveness as a place to invest, innovate, and grow
- Foster entrepreneurship and emerging industries, including technology and innovation

#### 2. Talent & Workforce Development

- Expand pathways to education, skills development, and career opportunity
- Align employers, educators, and training partners to meet workforce needs
- Invest in initiatives that prepare residents for the jobs of today and tomorrow

#### 3. Community Advancement & Quality of Life

- Promote inclusive growth that benefits residents, businesses, and neighborhoods
- Support initiatives that advance education, housing, health, arts, and culture
- Strengthen Stamford as a vibrant, livable, and connected city

#### 4. Civic Leadership & Collaboration

- Serve as a trusted, nonpartisan forum for public-private-nonprofit collaboration
  - Convene leaders to address emerging issues and long-term challenges
  - Translate research, dialogue, and partnerships into action and impact
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### **How We Work (Our Role)**

- Convener: Bringing diverse leaders together around shared priorities
- Connector: Aligning resources, ideas, and partnerships across sectors
- Catalyst: Advancing initiatives that drive measurable impact for Stamford

## **Program Overviews**

### **1. Stamford Tech Hub**

#### **What We Do**

Stamford Tech Hub expands access to technology education, digital skills, and career pathways for Stamford residents. Through training programs, employer partnerships, and hands-on learning experiences, the initiative connects individuals to in-demand tech skills (data analytics, cybersecurity, cloud management and others) aligned with regional workforce needs.

#### **Impact We Strive to Have**

- Prepare residents for high-growth, family-sustaining careers in technology
  - Strengthen the local talent pipeline for Stamford-based employers
  - Increase economic mobility by reducing barriers to tech careers
  - Position Stamford as a city where innovation and opportunity are accessible to all
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### **2. StartLab**

#### **What We Do**

StartLab supports early-stage entrepreneurs and small businesses through education, mentorship, and access to resources. The program helps founders refine ideas, build scalable business models, and connect with capital, customers, and professional networks.

#### **Impact We Strive to Have**

- Accelerate new business creation and local job growth
  - Build a more diverse and resilient entrepreneurial ecosystem
  - Retain innovative companies in Stamford as they grow
  - Foster a culture of entrepreneurship that fuels long-term economic vitality
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### **3. Leadership Fairfield County**

#### **What We Do**

Leadership Fairfield County develops current and emerging leaders through a structured, cohort-based program focused on civic engagement, regional issues, and cross-sector collaboration. Participants gain deeper insight into the challenges and opportunities shaping Stamford and Fairfield County.

#### **Impact We Strive to Have**

- Cultivate informed, connected, and engaged civic leaders
- Strengthen collaboration across business, government, and nonprofit sectors
- Build a pipeline of leaders committed to the region's long-term success
- Translate leadership development into meaningful community impact

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#### 4. Southwest Connecticut Tech Hub

##### What We Do

The Southwest Connecticut Tech Hub is a regional collaboration advancing innovation, technology, and economic competitiveness across the region. The initiative aligns industry, government, education, and workforce partners to attract investment, grow tech-enabled industries, and strengthen infrastructure for innovation.

##### Impact We Strive to Have

- Position Southwest Connecticut as a nationally competitive tech and innovation hub
- Attract federal, state, and private investment to the region
- Support scalable innovation and industry growth
- Create high-quality jobs and long-term economic resilience

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##### Summary

Together, these initiatives reflect the Stamford Partnership's role as a **convener, connector, and catalyst**—driving inclusive economic growth, strengthening talent and entrepreneurship, and ensuring Stamford and the region are positioned to thrive in a rapidly evolving economy.



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