

1BERKSHIRE

BERKSHIRE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Economic Development Bus Tour

Thursday March 28, 2019

Facilitators:

Jonathan Butler, 1Berkshire President & CEO
Stephanie Bosley, 1Berkshire BLP Program Coordinator
Jill St. John, Williams College, BLP Chair
Catherine VanBramer, City of Pittsfield, BLP Vice Chair

Session Objectives:

- Highlight areas of investment in the Berkshires across various sectors of the economy
- Learn about challenges and opportunities facing the region related to economic development in the Berkshires
- Create thoughts and ideas among participants for class project

10:15 am Arrive at The Cancer Center at BMC Hillcrest Campus, 165 Tor Court, Pittsfield, MA

10:30-11:15 Tour of **The Cancer Center at BMC Hillcrest Campus** (tour and discussion)

11:15-11:50 Travel to Williams College via Route 7

11:50-1:15 Enjoy Lunch at Williams College
Tour and discussion at Williams College Museum of Art

1:15-1:30 Travel to Tourists via Route 2

1:30-2:15 Tour of **TOURISTS** (tour and discussion)

2:15-2:45 Travel to Square Roots Farm via Route 7

2:45-3:30 **Tour of Square Roots Farm** (tour and discussion)

3:30-4:00 Travel to Chocolate Springs via Route 7

4:00-4:30 Enjoy a coffee break while hearing from **Josh Needleman, Chocolate Springs**

4:30-4:45 Travel to Boyd Technologies via Hwy 20

4:45-5:30 **Tour of Boyd Technologies** (tour and discussion)

5:30 -6:00 Travel to The Cancer Center via Hwy 20

6:00pm Arrive back at the The Cancer Center at BMC Hillcrest Campus

Jonathan Butler – 1Berkshire

Jonathan was appointed President & CEO of the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce in the Summer of 2014. Since then, he has transitioned through the merging of multiple organizations and become the President and CEO of 1Berkshire. Jonathan holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Franklin Pierce College and a Masters in Public Administration and a Masters in Political Science from Suffolk University.

Jonathan began his professional career working as a Legislative Director for former State Senator Benjamin Downing at the Massachusetts Statehouse before going onto become Town Administrator of Adams, MA at the age of 27.

Jonathan serves on multiple boards and committees including the Governor's Economic Development Planning Council, the Berkshire County Education Taskforce, the Berkshire Leadership Impact Council, the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, the Compact for Higher Education, Forest Park County Club and as a Trustee of Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter School. He was also a founding member of ProAdams, and served on the board of the former Berkshire Visitor's Bureau. Jonathan was also recognized in 2016 as part of the first *Forty Under 40* class in the Berkshires. Jonathan lives in Adams with his wife Michele Butler, and his dog, Jackson.

Stephanie Bosley - 1Berkshire

Stephanie Bosley is a Member Services Coordinator for 1Berkshire, responsible for the recruitment and retention of members, implementing 1Berkshire events and the Program Coordinator for the Berkshire Leadership Program. Prior to 1Berkshire, Stephanie has worked as the Community Manager for Relay For Life and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer events in the Berkshires and Southern Vermont at the American Cancer Society, a Community Development Specialist with the Town of Adams and a Program Associate with the Northern Berkshire Neighbors and UNITY Programs at the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition.

Stephanie currently serves as a Commissioner on the Berkshire County Commission on the Status of Women, the Board of Directors for the Hoosic River Revival project and as City Chair of the North Adams Democratic City Committee. She is a proud graduate of the Berkshire Leadership Program, Class of 2017. Stephanie is currently enrolled in the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts' Leadership Institute for Political and Public Impact (LIPPI) Program. Stephanie was a recipient of Berkshire Community College's *40 Under Forty* in 2019.

Stephanie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, a Master of Science in Public Affairs from the University of Massachusetts Boston and a Grant Writing Certificate from the University of Southern Maine. Stephanie lives in North Adams with her husband, Josh Meczywor and their dog Striker.

Jillian St. John – Williams College

Berkshire Leadership Program, Chair

Jillian has worked at Williams College since 2013 and currently is the Finance Manager of the Dining Services Department. Jillian is a graduate of BCC where she obtained her Associates Degree in Business Administration. She also holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Western New England University. She is currently getting her Masters of Business Administration (MBA) at MCLA.

Jillian is a graduate of the BLP class of 2016 and currently serves at the Chair of the BLP Steering Committee. She is also the Treasurer for the Youth Center Inc., in Adams MA and is on the Finance Committee for the Northern Berkshire United Way. Jillian volunteers her time throughout the year to various events and organizations like The Thanksgiving Baking Angels, BCAC Elf Program; along with running coat and food drives. She is always on the lookout for other causes that spark her interest to get involved with.

In 2018, Jillian was one of the recipients of Berkshire Community College's 40 Under Forty awards. She has a 4 1/2 year old daughter who is her greatest accomplishment. Jillian hopes that all her involvement in the community is something her daughter will be engaged with in the years to come as she gets older

Catherine VanBramer – City of Pittsfield

Berkshire Leadership Program, Vice Chair

Catherine VanBramer currently serves as the Executive Assistant to Mayor Tyer for the City of Pittsfield. She has served in the position since 2016 but has worked for the City of Pittsfield since 2010, holding previous positions in the City Clerk's Office and the Conservation Department. Through her work in the Mayor's Office, Catherine created and directed Pittsfield's first Citizens Academy, a 10-week program designed to teach citizens about how their local government operates.

Catherine serves as the Vice Chair for the Berkshire Leadership Program (BLP) Steering Committee and as the Clerk for St. Joseph's Church Parish Council. She is the Chair of Pittsfield's Ward 6 Democratic Committee. Catherine has also served as Clerk for several Pittsfield boards and commissions including: the Human Rights Commission, Ordinance Review Committee, Charter Review Study Committee and Conservation Commission. In 2019, Catherine was named by Berkshire Community College as a 40 Under Forty honoree.

Catherine graduated from Westfield State College with a degree in Political Science and a minor in Economics. She is an alumna of Leadership Institute for Political and Public Impact (LIPPI) Program and the Berkshire Leadership Program.