

# HR Connections

June — July 2015

HUMAN RESOURCE LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

*"To provide Human Resource professionals with a venue to enhance their knowledge and to share their expertise within and outside the association."*







HRLA  
of Eastern  
Connecticut

# You are Invited!

The Human Resource Leadership Association Presents

## HR on the Horizon: HR Challenges, Trends & Training Needs for 2016

Date: **Wednesday, September 9, 2015**

Time: **7:30– 9:00 AM**

Location: **S & P Oyster Co.**

**1 Holmes Street     Mystic, CT**

Price: **\$25.00 for Members, \$35.00 for Guests**

**REGISTRATION now OPEN: [www.hrlact.org](http://www.hrlact.org)**



- ♦ What Keeps you up at night as an HR (or business) professional?
- ♦ What challenges occupy a good part of your day, and how do you meet them?
- ♦ What trends do you see coming that inspire and motivate you, and which ones create more headaches?
- ♦ Engage and Contribute to planning for 2016 Programs!



### Karen Eichstaedt, MSIR

Karen Eichstaedt, our group moderator for this HR discussion, is currently the Vice-President of People at United Community & Family Services, a federally-qualified community health center with ten locations in eastern Connecticut. Karen is

in her tenth year there as head of HR; prior to that, she held positions as the Eastern Regional Director of Human Resources at United Natural Foods in Dayville (a natural foods distributor), and as the Director of Human Resources at S&S Worldwide in Colchester, where she began her career in Human Resources as an HR Assistant in 1985, and progressed up the ranks in the HR function. Karen worked at this national distributor of arts and crafts supplies for 15 years.

She holds a BA in Human Services from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and an MS in Industrial Relations from the University of New Haven. She sits on several Boards: as President-Elect and Program Co-chair of HRLA here in eastern CT; as Board member of the State Technical High School system in Middletown, and as Board member for the Workforce Investment Board in Franklin, CT, where she has served for 15 years.

Her HR passions are building positive workplace communities, strength-based leadership development, coaching/mentoring, employee relations, diversity/inclusion and organizational development! She lives in a farmhouse in beautiful northeastern CT with her partner, two cocker spaniels (Gabriel and Sasha) and her cat Olympia!



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## Seeking a new position? Member in Transition?

Please visit our HRLA [Job Opportunities](#) page!

HRLA Career Support Group

HRLA Members and HR Professionals are welcome.

Interested in expanding your HR career skills? In transition of considering a job change?

Contact: Maura Bonafede, HRLA Career Links Chair

E-mail: [mgb501@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgb501@sbcglobal.net)

Phone: [860-908-5861](tel:860-908-5861) for more information or to be added to our e-mail list.

Group meets monthly at the Groton Library – First Thursday of the month at 6PM\* RSVP required.

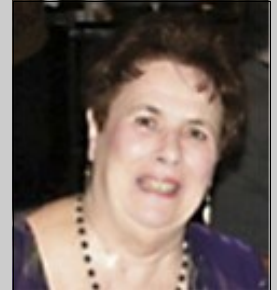
HRLA Career Links provides HR professionals in career transition and those HR professionals who desire to be a member of our career support group with:

- HR Professional speakers
- Topics related to job search success
- Networking Opportunities
- Job Leads and Transition Support
- Support to Advance their Career within the Profession
- Peer Support

HRLA members and non-HRLA guests within the HR profession are welcome to attend Career Links meetings. There is no fee to attend/participate in Group meetings.

For more information and to join the Career Links Group, please contact the Committee Chair, Maura Bonafede at [careerlinks@hrlact.org](mailto:careerlinks@hrlact.org) or [mgb501@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgb501@sbcglobal.net).

\*day and time may change due to weather, other HRLA events, or meeting room availability.



**Maura Bonafede,**  
HRLA Career Links Chair

Groton Library Meeting  
Room 3:

September 3rd, 6– 7pm

October 1st, 6– 7pm

November 5th: 6– 7pm

December 3rd: 6– 7pm



## HRLA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

### ***STAY TUNED...UPCOMING HRLA EVENTS!***

***October 8th, Dinner meeting:  
Annual Legislative Update***

***November 11th, Breakfast meeting:  
Veterans/Disabilities***

***December 10th:  
Dinner Holiday Party!***

- *Valuable* programs throughout the year at reduced Membership ticket price.
- Most HRLA Meeting programs *offer both HRCI & SHRM recertification credit opportunities.*
- Access to current *best practices* to make your organization more efficient, increase employee commitment, and help line managers carry out business strategy.
- *Up-to-date information* on pending legislation that may impact your company's operations.
- Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Availability of local *professional development opportunities* to improve your HR competency.
- *Monthly Networking opportunities* with Eastern CT Human Resources professionals.

## ANNOUNCING THE 2016 TRI-STATE SHRM CONFERENCE

***“Building a Sustainable HR Legacy”***

**Monday-Wednesday, May 2-4, 2016  
In Newport, Rhode Island**

### **Featuring:**

**Leading-Edge Topics and Presenters,  
Tradeshow, Great Food, Networking,  
Certification Credits and More!**

### **Including:**

**Monday Night –  
Clambake at the Hyatt Regency Newport  
Tuesday Night –  
Soirée at the Rosecliff Mansion**



## SAVE THE DATES!



Current HRLA  
LEADERSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES!

**-VP  
Communications**

**-Web Master**

**-Various Committees**



**LIKE US on Facebook!**



*Our chapter was formed in 2000 as a result of a grassroots initiative of human resource professionals eager to create a resource for ongoing development and networking in Eastern Connecticut.*

*Membership is open to any human resource professional who works or lives in Eastern Connecticut or nearby Rhode Island. Our monthly chapter meetings are generally held in the New London County area.*

*Over the years, HRLA has become a thriving organization. We are proud to be a recipient of multiple SHRM Chapter Awards.*

**HRLA BOARD Meetings:**

**2016 Programs Planning  
Meeting**

**September 24th– Dinner**

**Final 2015 HRLA Board  
Meeting**

**October 29th– Dinner**

### **OUR HRLA CORE VALUES**

#### **Collaboration —**

We reach out to other professional discipline for mutual development; we build strategic partnerships.

#### **Community —**

We promote civic service and support efforts to meet the needs of the local community.

#### **Development —**

We provide opportunities for professional growth and networking. We promote excellence in human resource practices.

#### **Innovation —**

We foster an environment for generating ideas. We seek opportunities to be leaders and facilitators of change.

#### **Integrity —**

We promote the highest ethical standards and behaviors.



# ***THANK YOU*** to HRLA members & Guests for **15 Wonderful years!**



**THANK YOU** again to our  
**SPONSORS** for making our July Summer  
Social possible:



**Liberty  
Mutual**  
INSURANCE



**Health Consultants Group**  
Insurance Solutions that Work