

Karen Ellis, Director Economic Development for the St. Louis Regional Chamber, a broad community of leaders united for economic prosperity throughout the St. Louis bi-state region. As director, Ellis is responsible for spearheading the growth of four economic clusters and the sustained vibrancy of Leadership Forums for the Healthcare, Logistics and Financial and Information Services economic clusters of the Chamber's One Plan. Ellis is also responsible for developing and implementing cross-sector strategies regarding cybersecurity, workforce alignment and broadband internet access. Ellis' work positively impacts stronger industry sectors.

Prior to joining the St. Louis Regional Chamber, Ms. Ellis served as president of Life Learning Center, a United Way funded Workforce Development 501(c)(3) in the Cincinnati region. Her primary focus was to assist the "at-risk" population to gain and maintain stable employment at a livable wage.

Ellis brings to the chamber over 20 years of executive leadership experience working in both public and private educational administrative roles, coupled with over a decade of experience creating, building and growing organizations in the financial sector.

Ellis holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Missouri State University as well as a Master of Science degree in Education and Leadership Administration. Ellis serves on the following Boards of Directors for the Healthcare Businesswomen's Alliance-St. Louis Chapter, the Midwest Cyber Center and the St. Louis University-Center for Supply Chain Management-Steering Committee.

Ms. Ellis, her husband and two children reside in St. Charles.

