

Wendy Dant Chesser, CEcD, President & CEO, One Southern Indiana

In November, 2012, Wendy Dant Chesser joined One Southern Indiana (1si) as the organization's third President and CEO. Driven by a strong desire to implement change that would establish stronger economic growth, a better educated and better paid workforce and a structure of advocacy within the State of Indiana, 1si serves as the organization that speaks with one vision and one voice for Clark and Floyd counties. Its mission is to provide the connections, resources and services that help businesses innovate and thrive in the region.



Wendy came to back to her home area after serving as President of Cornerstone Alliance, a similar organization to 1si in Southwest Michigan. Wendy's role in leading the organization included serving as a Trustee of the 530-acre Harbor Shores development and directing the 700-member Cornerstone Chamber of Commerce. Prior to her move to Michigan, she worked in various aspects of economic development for over seven years with the State of Indiana, and spent the last year of her government career as Deputy Executive Director for Program Operations of the Indiana Department of Commerce.

Wendy is a present or past member of several professional organizations, including the International Economic Development Council and economic development organizations in both Indiana and Michigan, and currently serves as a Director and Legislative Committee Chair for the Indiana Economic Development Association. She has been active in several Big Brother Big Sisters organizations as a volunteer mentor and board member. She has volunteered in United Way activities and has coached youth volleyball and basketball teams.

Wendy was named one of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers of 2015 by Consultant Connect, a consulting agency designed to bridge the gap between economic developers and site consultants. She was awarded the 2000 Outstanding Young Hoosier Award from the Indiana Jaycees, was recognized in the Indianapolis Business Journal's "Forty Under 40" for 2004, and was honored by Western Michigan Business Review's "Business Leaders Under 40."

Wendy is a native of Jeffersonville, Indiana, and she received her Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Indiana University Southeast in 1991. She and her daughter, Joslyn, reside in Sellersburg.