



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Three New Members Join Economic Progress Institute Board

**Providence, RI** – The Economic Progress Institute is pleased to announce that Dr. Julie DiBari, CEO of the Capacity Group; Robert Ferreira, Principal at Duxford Capital Advisors; and Dr. Jessica Sherwood, Professor of Sociology at Johnson and Wales University have joined the Institute’s Board of Directors.

“I am excited to welcome Bob, Julie and Jessica to our Board of Directors. Their extensive experience, dedication to service and commitment will serve to strengthen our Board as we continue to promote policies that improve economic security for all Rhode Islanders” said Rachel Flum, executive director of the Institute.



As the CEO of the Capacity Group, Julie DiBari has extensive experience creating measurable, sustainable impact for organizations. For the past six years, Julie has taught in the MBA program at Providence College and has twice been a visiting lecturer at Brown University's Social Enterprise Fellows Program. Julie has been recognized in the Boston Business Journal for the tools she created to advance corporate philanthropy. She has served on the board of Adoption and Foster Care Mentoring and currently serves on the board of the Norman Bird Sanctuary and on the board of Governors at Newport Hospital. She holds a Bachelor’s of Science in Communications from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, an MBA from Babson College,

and a PhD from the University of Rhode Island with a dissertation focus on team process and multiple stakeholder engagement in decision making. Julie is a resident of Newport.

As a Principal at Duxford Capital Advisors, Robert Ferreira is a multifaceted senior manager in consumer products, retail and financial services, having operating and turnaround experience in small and mid-sized businesses as well as the Hartford Financial Services Group and Saks Fifth Avenue. Bob is a co-founder and investor in early-stage ventures, from start-up to exit, including serving as co-founder, organizer and former director of the Darien Rowayton Bank, a community bank servicing local businesses and commercial real estate owners. Bob has served on the board of Habitat for Humanity in Southwestern Massachusetts and is also a former board member of the Hartford chapter of Junior Achievement. He has a Bachelor of Arts from Wesleyan University and an MBA from the University of Virginia, Darden School of Business. Bob is a resident of Providence.





As a professor of Sociology at Johnson & Wales, Jessica Holden Sherwood teaches courses about food and obesity, digital environments, inequalities and other social problems. As the author of “Wealth, Whiteness, and the Matrix of Privilege: The View from the Country Club,” Jessica analyzes the makeup of today’ country clubs and tackles the difficult subjects of class, race, and gender inequalities. She has served on the board of the Providence Children’s Museum and has been involved with the Women’s Fund of RI, the Providence Student Union, and the YWCA of RI. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Wesleyan University, and a PhD in Sociology from North Carolina State University. Jessica is a resident of Providence.

### **About The Economic Progress Institute**

The Economic Progress Institute is a nonpartisan research and policy organization dedicated to improving the economic well-being of low- and modest-income Rhode Islanders. For more information visit [www.economicprogressri.org](http://www.economicprogressri.org).