



Kristen Easterday is the Director of Local Government Relations for the Columbus Chamber of Commerce. She serves as the Chamber's chief advocate for business with local governments, concentrating on the city of Columbus and Franklin County, as well as connecting with the multitude of local governments within the 11-County Central Ohio region.

Since joining the Chamber in 2012, Easterday has become an asset for central Ohio businesses looking to navigate local government. In her advocacy role, Easterday has been asked to represent Chamber business members in a variety of capacities including the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's Public Policy Roundtable, the United Way of Central Ohio's Public Policy Committee, Mayor Coleman's Green Team, and Columbus City Council's Small Business Roundtable.

Previously, Easterday served as finance coordinator for Columbus Councilmember Michelle M. Mills and was an appointee of the Strickland administration, serving as Executive Director to the Office of Farmland Preservation at the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Her responsibilities included the management and administration of the office's three farmland preservation programs, including the \$25 million Clean Ohio initiative funding the purchase of agricultural easements. Before moving back to Ohio, she worked for the United States Senate in Washington D.C. and for the Arlington County Virginia Manager.

Valuing community and philanthropy, Easterday is honored to serve as president to the Harrison West Society, board member to Neighborhood Services, Inc., a local food pantry, and secretary to the Ohio University Student Senate Alumni Society. Past community achievements include recognition as one of Columbus Alive's "People to Watch," selection into the inaugural class of the United Way of Central Ohio's Neighborhood Leadership Academy, and graduate of Leadership Columbus.

Easterday holds a Bachelor of Specialized Studies from Ohio University and a Master of Public Administration from The George Washington University.