



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Jonathan D. Niedzielski, State Executive Director

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Jon served as an aide to Congressman John Olver for twenty years, most recently as his District Director and Deputy Chief of Staff in Holyoke, Massachusetts. In addition to leading the Congressman's constituent services and economic development teams, Jon acted as his principal district representative to community organizations, local businesses, educational institutions, labor unions, municipalities, government agencies, and elected officials.

During his years of public service, Jon assisted Congressman Olver in coordinating various regional economic development activities, including the Northern Tier Action Plan which led to extensive federal and state investment in projects along the struggling Rte. 2 corridor of Massachusetts. In addition, Jon acted as the Congressman's liaison to UMass Amherst, working closely with administration and faculty to identify research initiatives deserving of federal support. Beginning in the late 1990s, Jon also served multiple terms as a board member of Common Capital Inc., a nonprofit community development financial institution which provides both capital and technical assistance to small businesses in western and central Massachusetts.

Jon received a B.A. in History from Ithaca College and an M.A. in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia. He lives in Amherst with his wife Kathy and their children Drake and Anna.