



2021 Leader of Distinction

Melissa Komar

Executive Director,
Johnstown Redevelopment Authority

Melissa Komar is a 2001 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown where she obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in geography. After working in Pittsburgh as an environmental specialist for GAI Consultants, she returned to Johnstown to raise her family. Melissa worked through the ranks within municipal government starting as the GIS specialist, land management coordinator, and assistant city manager, and in 2016, she was the interim city manager.

Melissa is currently the executive director of the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority. The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority exists and operates for two public purposes; the elimination of blighted areas for residential, recreational, commercial, or industrial reuse and to provide a suitable living environment as well as adequate employment opportunities for the citizens of Johnstown.

In 2019, the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority was honored by the Cambria Regional Chamber of Commerce with the Community Impact Award. This award recognizes an organization that is truly making a difference in our region by taking positive action to invest in our community and sees social responsibility as an integral part of their success.

Melissa was honored in 2017 by the Young Professionals of the Alleghenies with the award for community involvement, as well as one of PA Business Central's Foremost under 40. Melissa was also named the 2017 Woman of the Year in the category of "professional" by the YWCA of Greater Johnstown. She serves on the John Murtha Johnstown-Cambria County Airport Authority and is the second vice president of the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association.