

## **Blair Sebastian Announces Retirement**

In the eighteen years I have been with the New York State Rural Housing Coalition, there have been but a few constants. One of those is Colin's determination to see every issue of Rural Delivery released on time. Another has been Colin's wise reluctance to allow me free rein with RD's front page. I have no doubt that this issue will go out on time, so I have known all along that this piece would be written in the wee hours, just before deadline. As for allowing me access to the front page, Colin has provided me this opportunity to say the first of several farewells and to thank all of those that have supported the Rural

Housing Coalition during my tenure as Executive Director.

As of last Friday, Blair Sebastian is a retiree. As of this Monday morning, my longtime colleague Colin McKnight assumes the position of Acting Executive Director. In this role, Colin will be partnering with the wonderfully able Lorraine Wynne, who will continue in her role as Agency Administrator- a title that understates the leadership role she plays in this organization. I am proud of the work that we have accomplished as a team, but no one should doubt that our successes are attributable to the support we have received from you... our members,

#### **New HCR Commissioner Named**

On May 20th, Jamie Rubin was appointed as the Commissioner of NYS Homes and Community Renewal. Mr. Rubin was the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, which was created by Governor Cuomo in August 2013 to oversee New York State's recovery from storms Sandy, Irene and Lee. The Office of Storm Recovery manages New York State's \$4.4 billion Community Development Block Grant allocation and co-manages the state's \$1.2 billion Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, which awards federal funding for storm-related capital projects state-

wide. Previously, Jamie served as Senior Advisor to HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan and New York State Director of the President's Hurricane Sandy Recovery and Rebuilding Task Force. He was also a Non Resident Senior Fellow with the Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program, working with cities including Buffalo and Detroit to identify and implement innovative economic development strategies. Mr. Rubin spent 14 years as an investment banker and private equity investor. He is a 1993 graduate of Yale Law School and lives with his family in New York City.

our sponsors, our funders, and the people from all walks of life who share a desire to see all rural New Yorkers have access to safe, decent and affordable housing. I trust that you will continue to support the Coalition as we work towards that goal.

Change at the Coaltion is but one of the changes in our world this month. One of my last acts as Executive Director here was to pen a letter welcoming the new head of New York's housing agencies. Jamie Rubin has been named Commissioner of New York Homes and Community Renewal, replacing Darryl Towns who has been a friend and supporter for the not for profit community for the last six years. We have not yet met the new Commissioner, but many who we know and respect speak highly of him.

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RD

#### **Rural Delivery**

Rural Delivery is published by the
New York State Rural Housing Coalition, Inc.
The Coalition is a non-profit statewide membership organization dedicated
to strengthening and revitalizing rural New York by assisting housing and
community development providers.

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Rural Delivery is published monthly and delivered electronically to a mailing list of 200 community development professionals and policy makers.

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Tel: 518/458-8696 \* Fax: 518/458-8896

Web Site: www.ruralhousing.org





## Bits and Pieces...

### **Membership Drive Underway**

Membership renewal notices were sent to all Coalition members in May. The new membership year begins July 1st. Please be sure to renew by July in order to ensure a continuation of your member benefits.

Your membership dues play a critical role in ensuring that the Coalition remains a leader in efforts to revitalize the communities of rural New York and ensure that a safe, decent home is available for all. If you are not currently a member and would like to join, please email *lorraine@ruralhousing.org*.

## RRP Training To Lead Annual Conference

The one-day RRP Initial training, and the half day RRP Refresher training will both take place on Wednesday, September 16th at the Lake Ontario Conference Center in Oswego. These trainings will launch the 2015 Annual Affordable Housing and Community Development Conference. Seating for the RRP trainings is limited. The class is open to both Rehab Coordinators or other staff of housing rehab programs, as well as contractors from surrounding communities. For more information, visit <a href="http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=87dbbwfab&oeidk=a07eb2s9bovf4088867">http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=87dbbwfab&oeidk=a07eb2s9bovf4088867</a>.

#### **Save The Date**

The Coalition for Excellence in Homebuyer Education (CXHE) will hold their 5th annual training and networking conference at the Albany Hilton on September 20th and 21st. This conference will include an update on the Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP) in New York. This conference will be supported by the Attorney General's office. Please mark your calendar for this event.

Federal and U.S. military employees can support the Rural Housing Coalition through the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). If you are a federal government or military employee and would like to donate through the CFC, please enter CFC code #9614 on your pledge card during the next fund drive.

# **Governor Nominates OTDA Commissioner**

On May 20th, Governor Cuomo nominated Sam Roberts to serve as Commissioner of the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Mr. Roberts currently serves as a member of the New York State Assembly, to which he was first elected in 2010 and represents parts of the City of Syracuse and the Towns of DeWitt, Onondaga and Salina. He is Chair of the Task Force on University-Industry Cooperation and a member of the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus. Prior to becoming an Assembly member, he served at the Office of General Services as Superintendent of the Senator Hughes State Office building in Syracuse, New York. Prior to this, he was an Onondaga County Legislator while also working as a journeyman tool and die maker at General Motors. He is a member of the United Auto Workers Union and was elected Recording Secretary of UAW Local Union #465 and Chair of Local Union #854's Education and Civil Rights Committees. Mr. Roberts has a BS from Empire State College, two Associate Degrees from Onondaga Community College and certificates in Labor Studies from Cornell University. This nomination will require Senate confirmation; once confirmed, Mr. Roberts will transition out of the Assembly in order to assume his new role

OTDA has not had a Commissioner for some time. The agency is responsible for operating a number of homelessness prevention programs, including the Homeless Housing and Assistance Program, which received a significant allocation increase in the State budget.

## OSHA Revises Labeling/Signage Requirements

Our friends at Environmental Education Associates gave us a heads up on new requirements from OSHA for work sites where lead based paint or asbestos hazards are present. Effective June 1, 2015 OSHA has revised the Construction & General Industry Standards for both asbestos & lead. The revisions include new language for warning signs and waste labeling as well as other technical revisions. Here are relevant excerpts from the construction standards pertaining to the labeling & warning signs since the waste labeling requirements kick in right away.

For asbestos, "The employer shall ensure that labels of bags or containers of protective clothing and equipment, scrap, waste, and debris containing asbestos fibers bear the following information:

**DANGER** 

CONTAINS ASBESTOS FIBERS. MAY CAUSE CANCER. CAUSES DAMAGE TO LUNGS. DO NOT BREATHE DUST. AVOID CREATING DUST"

For Lead, "labels must read as follows:

DANGER: CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CONTAMINATED WITH LEAD. MAY DAMAGE FERTILITY OR THE UNBORN CHILD. CAUSES DAMAGE TO THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. DO NOT EAT, DRINK OR SMOKE WHEN HANDLING. DO NOT REMOVE DUST BY BLOWING OR SHAKING. DISPOSE OF LEAD CONTAMINATED WASH WATER IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL REGULATIONS."

Other changes go into effect on June 1, 2016. For more information, visit the EEA website at <a href="http://environmentaleducation.com/">http://environmentaleducation.com/</a> or the OSHA sites at <a href="http://environmentaleducation.com/">www.ecfr:gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?rgn=div8&node=29:8.1.1.1.1.26.25.2</a> (Asbestos) and <a href="https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\_document?p\_table=STANDARDS&pid=10641">https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\_document?p\_table=STANDARDS&pid=10641</a> (Lead).

### **Rural Housing Preservation Grants**

The US Department of Agriculture announced the 2015 round of Rural Housing Preservation Grants on May 20th. Applications are due by July 6th. The HPG program is a grant program which provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas. In addition, the HPG program assists rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes in repairing and rehabilitating their units if they agree to make such units available

to low- and very low-income persons. \$3.5 million is available nationwide for this program. The HPG program encourages, but does not require, matching funds.

Agencies interested in applying for this program must contact the USDA state office for a paper copy of the application packet. Applications are to be submitted to the State Office as well. The State Office is located at:

USDA Rural Development New York State Office 441 S. Salina St, Suite 357 Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 477-6400 Non-Profit Housing Agencies: Are You RRP Compliant?

How does the EPA's Renovation, Repair, & Painting Rule affect non-profit housing agencies as landlords or property managers? Organizations that own or manage affordable housing units may not be aware that the RRP Rules apply to more than just handing out the Renovate Right pamphlet to new tenants. If your agency owns or manages pre-1978 housing, an employee performing work that may disturb lead based paint must be an RRP Certified Contractor, and the agency needs to be a Certified Firm.

What about the RRP Exemption for components that do not contain lead? Under EPA rules, work on target housing may be exempt from using Lead Safe Work Practices if the Certified Contractor can document, using an EPA Recognized Test Kit, that the area to be disturbed by renovation work does not contain lead. However, the rule clearly states that EPA Recognized Test Kit results are only valid when used by a Certified Contractor. That Certified Contractor needs to either be an EPA Certified Firm, or work for one. This presents a compliance issue for agencies acting as landlords or property managers who employ a handyman or maintenance staff.

The property we own or manage was a gut-rehab project. I know there is no longer lead based paint anywhere in the building. Isn't that enough for an exemption? While this seems like sound logic, the issue is compliance documentation. You may have personally witnessed every last paint chip being removed from the property, and maybe even had a Clearance test done if the project involved federal funding. However, your agency is still the owner or manager of a pre-1978 house which has no officially recog-

nized lead-free documentation. The Clearance test at the end of the project documents that no lead based paint hazards remain after the renovation. You may still need to have an RRP Certified Contractor (who owns or works for an EPA Certified Firm) use an EPA recognized test kit to document your RRP Rule exemption. You may also choose to have a Lead Inspection, using an X-Ray Fluorescence Analyzer to document the property's lead-free status.

What if we only hire outside contractors? If the property was built prior to 1978, and the agency has no official documentation of lead-free status, any contractor performing work that may disturb a painted surface must be RRP Certified (and own or work for an EPA Certified Firm).

What about HUD? The Venn Diagram of EPA/ HUD compliance is where lead regulations can get tricky. I'll address this in more detail next month, so for now let's focus on the question of RRP compliance with agency owned-ormanaged rental properties. If your property is still receiving federal assistance, you're now dealing with Title X compliance as well as the RRP Rule. This means, first and foremost, that you can no longer use a single Certified Contractor with a crew of non-certified trained workers. In federally-funded target housing, every worker must be RRP Certified. In addition, HUD's de minimus level is 2 square feet interior, as opposed to the EPA's minor repair and maintenance exemption of 6 square feet – and keep in mind that window replacement, demolition of any kind, and any work using a prohibited practice are not eligible for either exemption. Federal assistance can take many forms. For example, perhaps the project was funded by an acquisition/rehabilitation grant or assisted by a rental rehab program that is still under a regulatory period. Rental assistance is also federal funding, whether that assistance is for the entire building or tenant-specific. In some cases, Low Income Housing Tax Credits may also trigger Title X regulations.

Where can I get more information? Both the EPA and HUD websites have dedicated Lead Based Paint Compliance pages:

- http://www2.epa.gov/lead
- http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\_offices/healthy\_homes/lbp/ hudguidelines

I also recommend the National Lead Information Center: 1-800-424-LEAD (5323), for questions about RRP compliance.

This article is the first in a series of technical articles planned for Rural Delivery in 2015. We are grateful to Michelle DeGarmo for preparing this series. Michelle Read DeGarmo is President of Flatley Read, LLC, an EPA Accredited Training Firm specializing in environmental analysis and compliance management. Flatley Read, LLC is a NYS Certified Woman Owned Business.

The NYS Rural Housing Coalition will host RRP Initial and Refresher training on September 16th at the annual Affordable Housing Conference, in Oswego NY. This training will be open to housing agency staff as well as contractors based in the local area. Early-bird pricing will be in effect for registrations received by July 17th at: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=87dbbwfab&oeidk=a07eb2s9bovf4088867

## Career Opportunities

Housing Services Coordinator Tioga Opportunities, Inc. Department of Housing seeks a Services Coordinator. The person in this full-time position is responsible for the management functions of the properties operated by the Department and the administration and supervision of the housing staff of the Section 8 Program and assigned programs. Qualifications:

· A graduate from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four year college or university with a bachelor's degree in a human services or business management field and two years work in the human service field including one year supervisory experience; or

- A graduate from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college with an associate degree AND four years of experience in a related field including one year supervisory experience: or
- An equivalent combination of training and experience as indicated above. Work experience in

the human services field can be substituted for the educational requirements on a three years experience for two years education basis.

Salary is commensurate; generous benefits. For details visit www. tiogaopp.org/Career Opportunities. To apply, send cover letter with resume and application to Tioga Opportunities, Inc., Attn: Human Resources, 9 Sheldon Guile Blvd., Owego, NY 13827; or email careers@tiogaopp.org. EOE & Drug Free Workplace

#### **Director of Property Management**

RUPCO, Inc. is seeking a professional with at least 5 years of property management experience, ideally in the affordable housing field. Experience with senior housing, tax-credit properties, asset management and staff supervision is preferred. Responsibilities include managing the day-to-day operations for all RUPCO owned and managed properties, supervising staff, tenant and vendor relations, marketing, lease-up, rent and arrears collection, eviction process, income certifications, file maintenance, property inspections, reports, and travel as required.

Key Skills and Requirements: strong organizational skills; ability to work independently and meet multiple deadlines; excellent communication and interpersonal skills; ability to work with diverse groups; experience in managing staff; computer proficiency; strong work ethic; knowledge of Fair Housing and other applicable public housing laws. Associates Degree and 5 years' experience in rental housing/property management required. Experience with senior housing, tax credit properties and asset management preferred. Must have valid drivers' license and reliable vehicle. Includes generous benefit package with paid family health and dental insurance, retirement plan, vacation, sick, personal time, 12 paid holidays. Please send cover letter, resume and salary requirements to jobs@rupco.org, or send via mail to RUPCO, Inc., 289 Fair St. Kingston, NY 12401 **EOE** 

#### **Executive Director**

An Executive Director is sought for 2 Buffalo NeighborWorks agencies. Westside NHS and Black Rock-Riverside NHS. The Executive Director serves as staff leadership of West Side Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. and Black Rock Riverside Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. (WSNHS/BRRNHS), local community development organizations that are a geographic division within the NeighborWorks Community Partners Affiliation of organizations. The Executive Director reports to the CEO of NeighborWorks Community Partners, and is responsible for the consistent

achievement ofWSNHS/ BRRNHS's mission and financial objectives. This is a critical moment for the organizations as they transition from stand-alone entities to subsidiaries within an affiliation of organizations. Due to this transitional time, the person hired will need to have excellent people and communication skills, as well as strong staff management experience. WSNHS/BRRNHS is seeking an executive professional with an established track record of success in affordable housing development, development finance, and community development. This technical

expertise is highly desired in conjunction with demonstrated abilities in and qualities of leadership, managerial savvy, and entrepreneurism. A comprehensive compensation package, including health and retirement benefits, will include a competitive base salary. To be considered for this opportunity, please submit your resume by June 14th to:

Kim Brumber, President & CEO, NeighborWorks Community Partners, c/o NeighborWorks Rochester, 570 South Avenue, Rochester NY, 14620.kbrumber@nwrochester.org. No phone calls please. EOE

## **Career Opportunities**

#### **Property Manager**

Western Catskills Community Revitalization Council, Inc. seeks a full-time property manager to administer all operational functions of rental housing projects located in Grand Gorge and Stamford, NY. The position involves advertising and filling vacancies; negotiating and enforcing leases; maintaining and securing premises; overseeing employee and visitor safety; building maintenance; repair and upgrades; and complying with environmental, safety and health procedures relating to facility operation. The Property Manager must manage and delegate all maintenance and housekeeping staff and contractors, ensuring that there is 24 hour emergency coverage for the properties at all times.

Qualifications required include:

- A minimum of 5 years experience in residential or commercial property management required, plus a Bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and work experience
- Budget development and budget tracking
- Demonstrated skills in employee supervision
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Experience, patience and compassion in dealing with a diverse range of people, including senior citizens and their families
- Excellent record-keeping and organizational skills. Ability to manage multiple detailed projects at the same time
- Reliable personal transportation. Mileage is reimbursed

Qualified candidates are invited to send a cover letter, including salary requirements, and resume via email to *info@westerncatskills.org*. EOE

### Director of Real Estate Development

PathStone seeks a Director of Real Estate Development in the Rochester office.

The Director of Real Estate Development is responsible for overseeing the real estate development process throughout PathStone's geographic footprint to ensure that affordable rental housing is developed in line with PathStone's mission. The Director will serve as lead developer for complex rental housing projects and will also oversee the development activities of central development staff and regional housing directors. The Director is also responsible for assisting in establishing development goals and for developing a pipeline of potential projects and analyzing them for financial feasibility. Requirements for this position include:

- Master's degree in urban and regional planning, finance or public administration or a related advanced degree such as a JD.
- Ten years or greater experience with the development of affordable housing, including the knowledge of public and private financing programs.
- Knowledge of land use regulations, environmental and city planning theories and practice, community organizing principles.

The position is available immediately. Base salary is \$71,341.92 with a significant range based upon demonstrated experience and qualifications. To apply, please email a detailed cover letter and resume to: Monica C. McCullough, Path-Stone Corporation, 7 Prince Street, Rochester, New York 14607. Email: mmccullough@pathstone.org. Fax: (585)340-3309 Deadline is June 4, 2015.

#### Senior Real Estate Developer

Pathstone seeks applications for the position of Senior Real Estate Developer to provide direct administration and operations management for the Housing Development Program in Upstate New York, planning, including marketing, real estate development, financial analysis, subcontractor supervision and coordination with other Path-Stone housing programs and other PathStone divisions. PathStone's Mission is to build family and individual self-sufficiency by strengthening farmworker, rural and urban communities. PathStone promotes social justice through programs and advocacy.

Position requires BA or comparable training and experience in the field of housing development and program management.

A minimum of ten years of extensive administrative management (including supervision) and program experience with demonstrated knowledge of state and federal housing funding sources and programs, as well as financial analysis and computer competencies are required. The position is available immediately. Base salary is \$61,615.42 with a significant range based upon demonstrated experience and qualifications plus a competitive fringe benefit program.

To apply, please email a detailed cover letter and resume to: Monica McCullough, Sr. Vice President of Housing & Community Development, PathStone Corporation, 7 Prince Street, Rochester, New York 14607. Email: mmccullough@pathstone.org. Fax to: (585) 340-3306.

**EOE** 

### **Out Of Reach 2015 Released**

On May 19th, the National Low Income Housing Coalition released *Out of Reach 2015*.

This year, the national two-bedroom Housing Wage is \$19.35 per hour. The Housing Wage represents the hourly wage a full-time worker must earn in order to afford a modest apartment while spending no more than 30% of household income toward rent and utilities. Nationally, a household must have income of least \$40,240 per year in order to afford a two-bedroom unit at the Fair Market Rent (FMR) of \$1,006 per month. In 13 states and the District of Columbia, the Housing Wage exceeds \$20 per hour.

Renter wages continue to fall short of housing costs. The average renter in the US earns \$15.16 per hour, \$4.19 per hour less than the national two-bedroom Housing Wage and 34 cents per hour less than the one-bedroom Housing Wage of \$15.50 per hour.

Extremely low income households, those with incomes of 30% or less of the area median, comprise

## Peer To Peer Trainings Set ries of Peer To Peer charge for lunch.

The 2015 series of Peer To Peer trainings for Rural Preservation Company staff and board leadership will take place during the third and fourth weeks of June. The schedule begins on June 16th in Rochester at 400 East Avenue (Mary Hanson Room), in Watertown on June 17th at 120 Franklin Street (Neighbors Education Center), on June 18th in Binghamton/Johnson City at 235 Harry L. Drive (Harry L Apartments), and on June 23rd in Albany at 255 Orange Street (Second Floor Conference Room).

All sessions will begin at 10:00 AM and conclude by 3:00 PM. There will be a \$15 per person

one out of every four renters, and they face daunting challenges in finding affordable housing. Nationally, Extremely Low Income renter households are only able to afford rents of \$509 per month, far less than the two-bedroom FMR of \$1,006 and the one-bedroom FMR of \$806.

A full-time worker earning the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour can afford rent of just \$377 per month. A minimum wage earner would therefore need to work 107 hours per week, or have 2.7 jobs, to afford a two-bedroom rental unit. Even to afford a one-bedroom unit, a minimum wage worker would have to work 86 hours per week, or have 2.1 jobs.

Out of Reach 2015 attracted media coverage during the week of its release, including the Diane Rehm Show on National Public Radio, the Wall Street Journal, and CBS News. The new Out of Reach website tracks the latest news coverage of the report. To access the report, visit <a href="http://nlihc.org/oor">http://nlihc.org/oor</a>.

These trainings are an opportunity to stay current on legislative and other changes that impact the Rural Preservation Program, as well as to discuss trending regional issues in the housing and community development arenas. Anyone with topics that need to be included in the agenda are encouraged to call Colin McKnight at (518) 458-8696, ext. 14.

Directions to all sessions will be emailed to all RPCs during the first week of June. Please RSVP (with any dietary restrictions) for an accurate lunch count to *colin@rural-housing.org*.

## Sebastian, Cont'

Continued from Page 1

We know he has deep understanding of the consequences of the affordable housing crisis and the need for supportive housing through his association with Common Ground. Mr. Rubin has managed the Governor's CDBG flood recovery efforts adn, as a Brookings Fellow has been involved in Buffalo's redevelopment efforts. We wish the new Commissioner great success and I know our community looks forward to working with him.

But with all due respect to the new commissioner and all of our state's leaders, it is clear that those with decidedly rural interests are rare in the leadership of our state, and for that matter, our nation. This fact has consequences for rural communities and rural community development practitioners. A fair allocation of resources to rural communities does not come without considerable effort. Because we are a relatively small community, it is essential that everyone with a stake in our work makes an effort to advocate- at all levels, in all places- for a fair commitment of program and resources for rural communities. All of us, even the retired among us, need to actively support organizations like the Rural Housing Coalition and our sister organization, New York State Rural Advocates.

I expect that I am not finished here entirely. I look forward to continuing my association with the Rural Housing Coalition in some lesser capacity and that leaves me looking forward to seeing *y'all* at conference in Oswego in September. Peace!

Blandan

## **Special Needs Assisted Living Grants**

The New York State Health Department has announced the availability of capital grants of up to \$600,000 for the development of assisted living facilities for persons at risk of institutional care. Applications are due July 8th.

Assisted Living Programs eligible to apply include New York State Department of Health licensed Adult Homes or Enriched Housing Programs that at the time of application have Assisted Living Program beds or an award for Assisted Living Program beds.

For the purpose of this Request for Applications (RFA) the special needs population shall consist of Medicaid individuals who have one or more co-morbid and medically complex chronic conditions that are substantially disabling or life-threatening, have a high risk of hospitalization or other significant adverse health outcomes, and require specialized delivery systems across domains of care.

The RFA can be accessed through the Grants Gateway website at <a href="http://grantsgateway.ny.gov">http://grantsgateway.ny.gov</a>. Applications must be submitted online via the Grants Gateway by July 8, 2015 no later than 6:00 PM. There will be applicant conference held for this RFA. Please see the grants gateway for details.

The New York State Rural Housing Coalition is happy to be able to provide help wanted advertising opportunities for our members and non-profit community development agencies. Ad copy must be provided in Microsoft Word format, and may be transmitted by email to rhc@ruralhousing.org. Ad copy must comply with federal and state equal opportunity requirements to be published, and must be received by the 25th of the month to ensure placement in the succeeding issue of *Rural Delivery*. Ads provided in this fashion will also be posted in the Career Opportunities page of the Coalition's website, unless a request is specifically made not to place the advertisement on-line.

## Harckham Appointed To OCR

Peter Harckham has been appointed by Governor Cuomo to be the Assistant Director of the Office of Community Renewal at the Office of Homes and Community Renewal. Mr. Harckham has a varied background, most recently serving on the Westchester County Board of Legislators for eight years. In his second term, he was voted to the position of Majority Leader, and also served on committees focused on housing, planning, and the environment. Previously, Mr. Harckham worked in media and media planning and served as president at an affordable housing not-for-profit.

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