



NEWS RELEASE

May 4, 2015
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Katherine Doyle
Catskill Hudson AHEC
kdoyle@chahe.org
(845) 883-7260

Catskill Hudson AHEC Welcomes New Executive Director

After 11 years under the outstanding direction of Kathryn Reed, the staff of Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center (AHEC) will welcome Robert Wingate as their new Executive Director upon her retirement.

Marc Mendelsohn, Catskill Hudson AHEC Board President, indicated that Robert was the unanimous choice of the Board of Directors following an extensive executive search process. "The entire CHAHEC Board were extremely impressed by Robert's innovative vision, wide ranging professional accomplishments, and progressive approach, which will greatly support Catskill Hudson AHEC's mission going forward," stated Mr. Mendelsohn.

Rob has provided leadership at such diverse organizations and agencies as the public information unit of the New York City Office of Emergency Management, including for its response to the attacks of 9/11/01; the American Red Cross in Greater New York, including acting as its lead public information officer during floods and other disasters statewide, including Hurricane Floyd, three major aviation disasters, a tornado touchdown near Albany, and building evacuations, fires and collapses; Volunteer New York! (formerly The Volunteer Center of United Way) and its Skills-Based Volunteer Program; RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) of Westchester County; the Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance Association of New York State; the Westchester County Office of Emergency Management; the Seniors' Resource Center of Denver, Colorado; the Older Americans Coalition of Colorado; the Livable Communities Initiative of the Department of Senior Programs and Services of Westchester County; the Center for Aging in Place (Westchester County); the Campaign to Take Back Vacant Land (Philadelphia); the New York City Law Department, on matters pertaining to the needs of individuals with disabilities during a major disaster; and It Takes A Village 10591 (an aging-in-place organization in the villages of Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow in Westchester County).

Earlier in his career, Rob was a legislative aide in suburban Philadelphia to State Rep. Ellen A. Harley (District 149), with an emphasis on promoting women's health and domestic violence prevention; and a correspondent to the Philadelphia Inquirer, where, among other topics, he covered shifts in local law relating to smoking in public places and non-profit programs serving people with developmental disabilities. He has also written for the national magazine of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters and the newspapers of the HomeTown Media Group in Westchester County. Rob is or has been a volunteer for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the Family YMCA at Tarrytown, the Neighborhood House in Tarrytown, the Pocantico Hills School Foundation, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the Reformed Church of the Tarrytowns (inclusive of the historic Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow, of "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" fame), and the Good News Coalition of Jefferson County, Colorado (in response to the Columbine High School shootings). He has managed a variety of human service training and operational program curriculums for local law enforcement officials, teen community service programs and senior service delivery efforts at the community level.

"I'm overjoyed to have the opportunity to take part in the innovative and exciting programs and partnerships that the Catskill Hudson AHEC leads to strengthen and grow the healthcare workforce in so many important communities in our state. Its mission is a vital one," stated Robert. "I would like to congratulate Kathy Reed on her retirement after many years of remarkable service to the people that Catskill Hudson AHEC serves and engages with. The organization has her

to thank to a great extent for the ways it has launched, funded, and innovated its diverse mix of programming to meet changing needs.”

Catskill Hudson AHEC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to address regional healthcare workforce shortages through education and collaborative community relationships to assist students, career seekers, and health professions. For additional information on our various programs, please visit www.CHAHEC.org/programs.



Robert H. Wingate

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