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## Conference Agenda

**Monday**

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Conference Sign-in
2:45 - 3:15 p.m.	<b>Keynote Speaker:</b> <b>RuthAnne Visnauskas</b> Commissioner/CEO of NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR)
3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	Plenary Session: <b>HCR Office of Community Renewal (OCR)</b> Program leads will provide brief overviews of housing grant opportunities, followed by a Q&A
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.	Down time to use for hotel check in or break
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres and bar
6:30 - 8 p.m.	Dinner and Awards  Presentation of the prestigious <b>Luis Arce Success Award</b> and the <b>Herman D. Farrell Jr. Policy Leader Award</b> . <i>(See below to make your nominations.)</i>

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**Tuesday**

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Breakfast buffet
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	<b>Patrick McClellan</b> <i>Policy Director,</i> <i>New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV)</i>
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.	<b>Breakout Session 1</b> <i>(See descriptions below.)</i>
11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	<b>Breakout Session 2</b> <i>(See descriptions below.)</i>

12:45 - 1:45 p.m.

Lunch buffet

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

Plenary Session:

**New York State’s Master Plan in Aging**

**Andrew Lebwohl**

*Director, Center for Aging and Long Term Care (LTC)  
Finance and Supports, NYS Department of Health*

**John Cochran**

*Chief of Staff, NYS Department of the Aging*

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Breakout Session 3** *(See descriptions below.)*

4:15 - 4:30 p.m.

Refreshments and snacks

Closing Remarks



## Tuesday Session 1 — 10:45 to 11:30 a.m.

Choose from one of three tracts.

**NPCs & Land Banks & Land Trusts**

An overview of the structure of Land Banks and Community Land Trusts (CLTs): what they are, how they operate, as well as their benefits and risks.

**Christina Delasi**

Special Counsel,  
Goldstein Hall Attorneys  
at Law

The panel is intended for affordable housing developers, Housing Development Fund Corporations (HDFCs), and not-for-profits focused on housing issues.

**Susan Cotner**

Executive Director, Albany  
Community Land Trust  
(ALCT) and Affordable

Housing Partnership  
(AHP)

Right to Counsel

Katy Lasell

Campaign Organizer, Right to Counsel NYC Coalition

Canyon Ryan

Executive Director, United Tenants of Albany

Nearly 165,000 New Yorkers currently face eviction. The majority of them will not have legal representation as they attempt to navigate the court system while remaining safely and securely housed.

New York tenants, attorneys, faith communities, unions and many others are fighting to ensure all New Yorkers have the right to a free attorney. This right has been statistically proven — across the country — to keep people in their homes, reduce eviction filings, and even bring millions in savings to governments.

Join organizers with the Right to Counsel coalition to learn about the campaign for RTC in New York State, and how you can get involved!

Housing at the Federal Level

Lindsay Duvall

Senior Housing Advocacy Organizer, National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)

An overview of the causes of our nation’s housing crisis and the federal policies needed to solve it.

Learn what Congress has accomplished so far in 2023, the outlook for the future, as well as timely advocacy opportunities for you and your organization to engage in.

Use tools and resources from the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) to plan your federal advocacy strategy and easily take action.

Tuesday Session 2 — 11:45 to 12:30 p.m.

Choose from one of three tracts.

CDFIs and NPCs: Working Together for Affordable Housing

Kim McIlroy

Chief Program and Compliance Officer, Home Headquarters

Christopher Illum

Without equitable access to affordable credit and investment capital, people living in low-income communities often face barriers to quality housing, education, health care, jobs and other essential services.

Community development financial institutions, or CDFIs, can reduce those barriers by unlocking access to basic financial services for those traditionally excluded by mainstream financial systems. Learn how and why they work, functions

Chief Program Officer &  
Executive Vice President,  
Habitat for Humanity

Dan Fielding

Director of Strategic  
Partnerships, Habitat for  
Humanity

and types of CDFIs, and how working with one can  
help your organization.

Good Cause  
Eviction

On March 3, 2023, New York’s Appellate Division  
Third Judicial Department declared the city of  
Albany’s Local Good Cause Eviction protections  
preempted by New York State law.

Canyon Ryan

Executive Director, United  
Tenants of Albany

Tenants and advocates immediately began calling on  
the NYS legislature to extend this renter protection to  
hundreds and thousands of tenants across the State.

Laurie Buitrago

Secretary, Bleecker Terrace  
Tenants Association

After the 2023 legislative session ended with no  
tenant protections, many renters and community-  
based organizations wonder what’s next for their  
housing stability.

Learn how Good Cause helped 279-units of  
unregulated month-to-month tenants fight  
gentrification and keep Albany’s West Hill  
Neighborhood whole, as well as a discussion on the  
outlook for the 2024 NYS legislative session.

Engaging Residents  
in Advocacy

Those closest to the problem are closest to the  
solution. Learn strategies to effectively engage,  
educate and mobilize the residents you serve in your  
advocacy activities.

Lindsay Duvall

Senior Housing Advocacy  
Organizer, National Low  
Income Housing Coalition  
(NLIHC)

From supporting resident organizing, to promoting civic  
engagement, to bringing the voices of people with lived  
expertise into your town hall, state house, or even the  
halls of Congress.

Review the National Low Income Housing Coalition’s  
(NLIHC) *Our Homes, Our Votes* campaign and tools to  
support your non-partisan voter and candidate  
engagement activities as we enter election season.

Tuesday Session 3 — 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Choose from one of three tracts.

WANTED: Bold  
Ideas to Address  
Housing Shortages

New York State has a severe shortage of affordable  
and workforce housing across the state. Recent  
proposals that would allow more housing production

**Christopher R. Widelo**  
  
Director of External Affairs,  
  
NYS Association of For  
Affordable Housing  
(NYSFAFH)

to take place in communities with the greatest need  
have not been popular. How does New York build the  
political will to take the bold steps needed to  
implement real solutions for today and in the future?

**James Walsh**  
  
Managing Partner, Manatt,  
Phelps & Phillips, LLP

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**Accessory Dwelling  
Units**

**Aniqa Nawabi**  
  
Director of Special  
Initiatives,  
  
New York State Homes &  
Community Renewal

The **Plus One ADU Program** is an initiative to create  
and improve Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) across  
the state.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are a great way to  
promote housing growth, without changing the  
construct of neighborhoods. ADUs are a safe and  
affordable way to house a family member or tenant  
that can help with housing expenses

In this session, learn about opportunities available  
now to housing organizations to implement this  
program, in addition to learning how the program  
came to light, how it works, and where it is currently  
being implemented.

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**Energy and Savings  
Opportunities for  
Homeowners and  
Renters**

**Scott Oliver**  
  
Program Manager,  
  
Equity and Affordabiity,  
Housing Decarbonization,  
Single Family Residential,  
NYSERDA

**NYSERDA’s Empower+ program** is a way for New  
York’s 1-4 family unit homeowners and renters to make  
energy efficiency upgrades and make their homes  
safer and more comfortable.

In the coming year NYSERDA will also be  
administering funding for the **Inflation Reduction  
Act’s High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Act  
(HEERA) program** which will help low- and moderate-  
income families get their homes ready for  
electrification, and in some cases, install heat pumps  
that will provide heating and cooling.