

# Press



# Release

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## For Immediate Release

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## **New ‘Feed Hungry People’ Effort Launches** **Wolfe: Committee Recognizes Rockland’s Most** **Pressing Need In Food Recovery Endeavor**

**New City, NY (March 23, 2016)** – Rockland County Legislature Chairman Alden H. Wolfe and other concerned community members today kicked off the first meeting of the Feed Hungry People Committee, part of the Rockland County Food Recovery Task Force.

“There are many important aspects of food recovery, but our most pressing need is to feed hungry people,” Wolfe said. “We already have the talent and expertise we need to achieve this goal here in Rockland County. I know we will be able to work together to stop the wasting of food and to recover surplus food and get it to our hungry neighbors.”

The Feed Hungry People Committee is co-chaired by Diane Serratore of People to People and Rob Maher of Together Our Unity Can Heal (TOUCH). Both organizations help feed people in Rockland.

The group of about 25 participants focused on setting goals, including the need to identify food donation sources, identify transportation and storage options, create a database to track pickups and deliveries and establish an efficient way to communicate between agencies and volunteers.

The Rockland County Food Recovery Task Force will also expand to include three additional committees: Food Source Reduction, Feed Animals, and Composting/Landfill. Participation in the four committees is welcome.

The Task Force seeks to implement the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s Food Recovery Hierarchy as a model.

The EPA's program aims to reduce food waste and in the process, help shrink costs for businesses, reduce municipal use of landfills and provide food to hungry residents.

Both the EPA and New York State hope to significantly reduce food waste over the next 15 years and funding is becoming available for different efforts. Wolfe hopes to identify projects in anticipation of such funding and wants to position the county as a leader on these issues.

Wolfe launched the Rockland Task Force in October, following earlier successful information sessions where he brought together anti-hunger advocates, business owners, farmers, representatives of the EPA and the DEC, and others.

*Want to get involved? Contact Legislature Chairman Alden H. Wolfe's office at 845-638-5100.*

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