



**CENTERSTATE
CORPORATION FOR
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chamber and CEDA

Editorial Contact:

Karen Tehan

Communications Specialist

Cayuga Strategic Solutions

2 State Street

Auburn, NY 13021

(315) 252-3500

email: ktehan@cayugacountychamber.com

CenterState CEO

Editorial Contact

Christa Glazier

VP of Communications and Marketing

CenterState CEO

115 W. Fayette Street

Syracuse, NY 13202

(315) 470-1800

email: cglazier@centerstateceo.com

Andrew Fish joins CenterState CEO as Senior Vice President of Business Development

Chamber and CEDA name acting directors to serve in interim capacity as search for new executive director commences.

Central New York, February 25th, 2016 CenterState CEO, Central New York's leading economic development and chamber organization; and Cayuga Strategic Solutions, a joint venture of the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce and Cayuga Economic Development Agency, announce that Andrew Fish, Executive Director of Cayuga Strategic Solutions, has accepted the position of Senior Vice President of Business Development at CenterState CEO.

In response, Cayuga Strategic Solutions' member organizations have proactively named acting directors to lead the organizations, while a search is conducted to find a permanent executive director. The search for a new executive director will begin immediately, with a search committee comprised of members of the two boards. The intent is to find a permanent hire by the end of the 2nd Quarter of 2016 if not sooner.

Amy Fuller, chamber manager, has been named acting director of the Cayuga County Chamber. The board is confident that based upon her outstanding work with the membership and dedication to growing the Chamber Amy will do a great job ensuring growth continues for the Chamber and its members.

Tracy Verrier, economic development technical specialist, has been named acting director of the Cayuga Economic Development Agency. The board is certain that with Tracy's experience, expertise, and broad understanding of economic development, CEDA's existing projects and initiatives will continue without interruption.

In partnership with a transition team of board members the acting directors will ensure a seamless leadership transition. The board and the staff of Cayuga Strategic Solutions are grateful for Andrew's hard work and leadership and they are sad to see him go. There is also a great deal of enthusiasm about the opportunity that this type of transition presents for strengthening the organization and solidifying the sustainability of the holistic approach to business development that the joint venture has created.

Andrew's first day at CenterState CEO will be April 4th. Until that time he will be assisting the transition at both organizations.

"I am deeply grateful for the opportunity I have had to work with the businesses and leaders of Cayuga County over the past six and a half years," said Andrew Fish. "The success of the Chamber, CEDA, and the partnerships with the County, City, and IDA's have allowed us to influence tremendous growth and development in our community. I am extremely excited about the opportunity to join such an effective and impactful organization, as CenterState CEO, as it allows me to continue the work I am passionate about: supporting growth and making a difference in our region. Cayuga County will continue to be my home and where my heart lies, and I look forward to serving all of Central New York because a strong economy in the region benefits us all."

In his new capacity as SVP of Business Development, Andrew will be leading a dynamic team of outstanding professionals in regional business development dedicated to having a positive impact on the prosperity of the CenterState region, which includes Cayuga County. The Business Development team at CenterState CEO brings expertise to its members and the businesses of the region through economic development support, advocacy, visibility, business resources, cost savings, export assistance, employee development, and connections to nearly 2,000.

"We are thrilled to have Andrew join our organization with his ideas, passion, and incredible work ethic," said Robert Simpson, president, CenterState CEO. "With the strong team already in place, Andrew's demonstrated leadership to create opportunity for the organizations and stakeholders he has served; I am confident that CenterState CEO is well positioned to continue serving the economic growth needs of our region."

About Cayuga Strategic Solutions

Cayuga Strategic Solutions is a joint venture of the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce and the Cayuga Economic Development Agency, formed with the express intent to provide strategic solutions to the businesses in Cayuga County through its partner organizations and their programs.

www.cayugacountychamber.com www.cayugaeda.org

About CenterState CEO

CenterState CEO is an independent and forward-thinking economic development strategist, business leadership organization and chamber of commerce; dedicated to the success of its members and the prosperity of the region. We serve as an advocate and resource for smart business, catalyze and facilitate regional growth, and promote community prosperity through results-driven partnerships, planning and problem-solving. www.centerstateceo.com



Good afternoon colleagues and friends,

It is with both excitement and sadness that I am announcing that I will be stepping down from my duties as Executive Director of Cayuga Strategic Solutions, the joint venture of the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce and the Cayuga Economic Development Agency. I am extremely grateful for the wonderful opportunities and experiences I have had over the past six-and-half years. It has truly been a joy and a pleasure to serve Auburn and Cayuga County.

I will be joining the team at CenterState CEO as the Senior Vice President of Business Development . The fantastic part about my new position is that I will still be able to have an impact on the businesses and economic development of our community. CenterState CEO is the leading membership and economic development organization in Central New York and has been a strong partner and collaborator with us over the past few years in helping bring about the success we have experienced here in Cayuga County.

I will remain a resident of Cayuga County and maintain my ties to my community here, so while I am moving on from my day job this will not be goodbye by any stretch. I am so very excited about this new adventure and the impact I can continue to have, however I am very sad about not being able to interact with all of you on a regular basis and spend all of my time working on behalf of Cayuga County.

Once again thank you all so very much for your commitment to our community and the support you have shown me and our organizations over the years.

Sincerely,
Andrew

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew R. Fish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrew R. Fish
Executive Director