

THINK DUTCHESS

Since its inception in 2015, Dutchess County's ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative, which fosters a welcoming and supportive environment for residents with special abilities, has been embraced throughout the county. The movement has gained statewide support, with towns, cities and villages throughout New York adopting ThinkDIFFERENTLY resolutions to similarly declare their intention to open hearts and change minds toward residents of all abilities in their respective communities. Dutchess County continues to ThinkDIFFERENTLY in 2017, again hosting various community events including:

- SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW YORK STATE WINTER GAMES
- SENSORY-FRIENDLY MOVIE EVENTS & FAMILY PICNIC
- SPECIAL NEEDS BASEBALL CAMP AT DUTCHESS STADIUM
- COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE TO EXPLORE EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS
- THINKDIFFERENTLY DASH AS PART OF THE WALKWAY MARATHON



#THINKDIFFERENTLY

 **845.486.2000**

 **DUTCHESSNY.GOV**

 **COUNTYEXEC@DUTCHESSNY.GOV**

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

TOWN HALL FORUMS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| BEEKMAN TOWN HALL
March 9th, 6PM
4 Main Street, Poughquag | TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE SENIOR CENTER
March 14th, 1PM
14 Abe's Way, Poughkeepsie |
| TIVOLI VILLAGE HALL
March 22nd, 6PM
86 Broadway, Tivoli | AMERICAN LEGION POST #178
April 5th, 6PM
155 Route 44, Millerton |



EXPANDED SERVICES FOR VETERANS, PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT, ADDED STAFF, AND TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS.



WE CONTINUE TO GROW OUR PARK AMENITIES WITH DISC GOLF AT WILCOX, IMPROVED RIVER ACCESS AT QUIET COVE AND RESTROOMS ON THE HARLEM VALLEY RAIL TRAIL.



TO SERVE OUR GROWING SENIOR POPULATION, WE ENVISION A REGIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CENTER TO IMPROVE NUTRITION, SOCIALIZATION AND EXERCISE.



DUTCHESS COUNTY

MARCUS J. MOLINARO, COUNTY EXECUTIVE



We are one interrelated family, bound together. We don't just call Dutchess County home; we work together to make it stronger.

Together, we are strengthening our local economy, overcoming the challenges of doing business in New York State to welcome new businesses, and helping those already invested here to expand and succeed.

We are making County Government as efficient and effective as possible, sharing services with local municipalities and consolidating where we can. Our work has reduced the county property tax levy for three years in a row, and we are well positioned to continue providing taxpayer relief.

We are addressing youth services, drug addiction, mental health, and other challenges in our community with bold plans of action and innovative ideas. Our residents are showing communities throughout New York State what it means to ThinkDIFFERENTLY and be kinder to one another. The state of Dutchess County is strong, and together we are focused on ensuring the Dutchess County family is healthier, safer and stronger.



OUR COMMUNITY AND THE FAMILIES WITHIN IT ARE WOVEN TOGETHER IN ONE FABRIC.

THINK DIFFERENTLY THINK DUTCHESS



MAKING GOVERNMENT EFFECTIVE

ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION
Strengthening existing businesses and attracting new ones

THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAMILY
YOUTH SERVICES



“As service providers, we must come together to collaborate on our efforts to enhance the lives of young people in our community...”
— Shirley Adams, Executive Director
Catharine Street Community Center

Our kids have all the potential in the world. They are confronted by challenges, obstacles, and choices every day. As a community, we must do more to strengthen the “Path to Promise” for our youth and enable them to reach their full potential.

The County has awarded \$100,000 to the Boys & Girls Club to launch a comprehensive after-school education initiative to provide students in grades K-8 with access to positive youth development activities designed to improve the academic, social, and vocational competencies of our young people. This program, offered in conjunction with community partners, will offer a positive, supervised alternative for youth who might otherwise participate in harmful, violent, or criminal activities. Dutchess County is also engaged in the development of a Youth Empowerment Action Plan.

We have committed \$500,000 to review existing programs and services for youth, defining outcomes, and identifying gaps in services. Led by a steering committee of community stakeholders, this review will consider every age group, community, and provider to establish short-term goals and long-term principles. Public input will be encouraged through extensive outreach and a countywide youth summit. This plan will include tools to measure success and help determine where and how we commit an additional \$1.5 million for a youth services center.

This assessment will also include a comprehensive review of how County Government provides services and assistance to young people. With the help of our many community partners, we will work to equip our youth with the tools they need to achieve limitless success.

PREVENTION. INTERVENTION. DIVERSION.

Crisis Intervention Training helps officers to both identify individuals in crisis and de-escalate situations to avoid arrests of individuals who can be better served through mental health and substance abuse programming. We have trained 250 officers and plan to train 200 more in 2017. Our Stabilization Center provides a 24/7 resource for our Mobile Crisis Intervention Team, law enforcement, and families, to bring people in crisis, help them de-escalate, and connect them to ongoing programs.

With all we have done, there is still more to do. Heroin and opioid addiction have become the public health crisis of our day. We are attacking the supply of drugs by expanding the reach of our drug task force, increasing drug drop off sites by working with pharmacies, educating people about disposing of excess prescriptions, and working with physicians and dentists to institute guidelines for prescribing. Our Substance Abuse Taskforce and the Prevention Council are spearheading efforts for prevention programming, education, and awareness in schools and throughout the community. We are expanding our Medication Assisted Treatment, providing recovery coaches and peer advocates, and treatment readiness programming through RESTART, the jail transition program.



Mobilized under the Think Dutchess Alliance for Business, Dutchess County’s economic development efforts are paying dividends, helping to strengthen existing businesses and attracting new ones. New investment, with over \$3 billion in projects, is propelling our local economy in a wide variety of industries from tech to tourism, healthcare to agri-business.

Key among our economic engines is our own Hudson Valley Regional Airport, under a new brand with private management and targeted marketing that is attracting new users. Now home to an exclusive Cirrus service center and with plans for the Dutchess Community College Aviation Education Center underway, the airport is a hub for new job training and employment opportunities.

Beyond its aviation program, Dutchess Community College has been expanding its reach to address ever-changing needs for tomorrow’s workforce. County Government is proud to support those efforts with increased funding commitments, adding millions in new support since 2015 to expand learning opportunities to the Family Partnership Center and through the new E-TECH program.

The Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) and Local Development Corporation (LDC) have adopted a Local Workforce Utilization policy, tying IDA and LDC benefits directly to local jobs - requiring 80% of jobs for any incentivized construction project be hired from our area. New County Government policies for large building projects will require local training programs that combine on-the-job skill building with related instruction at institutions like BOCES or Dutchess Community College.

“We connect businesses looking to relocate or expand to the right people, right away...”
— Sarah Lee
President and CEO
Think Dutchess



Dutchess County continues to lead the state in making government more efficient through consolidation and shared services.

Since its inception in 2013, we have committed \$7M to the Municipal Innovation Grant Program for municipalities, fire and other special districts, to incentivize projects that consolidate or share services, establish regional delivery of services and/or offer other efficiency improvements.

Our annual summit this spring will bring local and state officials together to focus on Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement, Land Use/Economic Development and General Innovation.

LOCAL FIRST

We support the “Think Local First” campaign and are committed to Shop Local First. Though federal and state laws make it difficult to buy goods and services locally, we are finding creative ways. Our Local Business Registry connects county departments with local businesses to purchase specific goods.

