



PRESS RELEASE – October 20, 2017

For Immediate Release

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South County Habitat for Humanity Announces New Executive Director

Charlestown, R.I. – South County Habitat for Humanity is pleased to welcome Colin Penney as Executive Director, effective October 30, 2017. He takes over from Lou Raymond, who retires later this year after fifteen years of service. In announcing the appointment, Val Henry, President of the Board of Directors, said “we are extremely excited to welcome Colin to South County Habitat and we look forward to his leadership as we work together continuing our mission of providing affordable housing in our community. We conducted a nationwide search, with over 150 applicants for the position, and Colin was our top choice.”

Penney comes to South County Habitat with over 15 years of experience in non-profits and affordable housing, and has extensive experience working with Habitat, both as a volunteer and a staff member. Most recently he served as the Program Director for Habitat for Humanity of Mahoning Valley in the Youngstown area of Ohio.

While studying Sociology and Anthropology at Ohio Wesleyan University he became involved in working with the homeless population in Columbus OH, and studying how city growth and new infrastructure had set in motion a system that systematically forced low income individuals out of their homes and into the streets. It was this experience that set him on his path of working on housing issues.

Being a native New Englander, Penney is excited to return to the northeast. “I have been fortunate to build with so many Habitat affiliates across the country, and I couldn’t be more thrilled to return to New England and serve a community so close to where I was raised”, he said. “I have seen the impact that Habitat has on the lives of its homeowners, the hearts of its volunteers, and the spirit of the local community it serves. I look forward to rolling up my sleeves and getting involved as quickly as possible” he added.

About South County Habitat for Humanity

South County Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally and worldwide through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions. For more general information, call 401-213-6711 or go to our website at www.southcountyhabitat.org.

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