



Rochester Hearing and Speech Center
Member of the Al Sigl Community of Agencies
1000 Elmwood Avenue, #400 Rochester, NY 14620 (585) 271-0680

Public Relations Contact:
Amy Stein, Development Director
Email: astein@rhs.org | Phone: (585) 271-0680 , Ext. 1144

For Immediate Release

New President and CEO, Bob Russell, brings years of non-profit experience coupled with his own story of overcoming hearing and speech challenges to Rochester Hearing and Speech Center.



Rochester, New York, November 5, 2020 - As Rochester Hearing and Speech Center approaches 100 years serving the Greater Rochester community, they are delighted to introduce you to their next President and CEO, Bob Russell. Bob began his work with RHSC on October 12 and will have the opportunity to work alongside Mary Balme through the end of the year, when she departs for her well-deserved retirement.

Bob believes that he has found a home at Rochester Hearing and Speech Center not only because he and the agency share a commitment to excellence, but also because of his personal experience. As a child, Bob was impacted by his own hearing and speech challenges. He truly understands how important it is for RHSC to help each client with their specific needs so that they are able to “Communicate for Life”.

“Bob has a great deal of experience as a leader in the non-profit sector. The search committee and Board of Directors voted for him unanimously. We are excited to have Bob as the next leader of our team!” said, Board Chair, Dave Pitcher. Prior to joining RHSC, Bob was the Executive Director for the Upstate NY Region of the American Diabetes Association (ADA) where he oversaw the region of Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse and Albany. Prior to joining the ADA, he served as the CEO of Gilda’s Club Rochester - a Cancer Support Community. He also served as the Executive Director of The Little Theater Film Society, and was the Director of Marketing for Geva Theatre Center. Before coming to the non-profit sector, Bob spent 16 years as an executive in the professional sports industry with the Buffalo Sabres, Rochester Americans, and Rochester Rhinos. Throughout his career, Bob has led organizations that were honored with the “Organization of the Year” award, including Rochester Rhinos Soccer Club, The Little Theater Film Society and Gilda's Club Rochester.

Bob said, “The common thread that has tied together these experiences has been the commitment to excellence that I have shared in leading these organizations for the people that they served. My commitment to the clients, staff, partners and friends of RHSC will be no different. I am excited to take RHSC into its next 100 years of serving the Rochester community!”

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About Rochester Hearing and Speech Center

Rochester Hearing and Speech Center is committed to helping children and adults develop the skills and abilities necessary to “Communicate for Life”. Our goal is to help individuals and those they love to share life’s most precious moments by assisting individuals in developing the best possible hearing and speech abilities at every stage of their lives.

Founded in 1922, RHSC is the longest standing and most experienced provider of speech, language and hearing services in Monroe Country. RHSC not only provides hearing health services for people of all ages, they also help to improve the quality of life of young children and their families by providing speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology services and special education. RHSC is a member of the AI Sigl Community of Agencies with offices in Brighton, Greece, and Webster.

RHSC is proud to be a not-for-profit agency serving Western New York for 98 years.

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