



Sponsored by the Downtown Community Forum

DUGAN CENTER, ST. MARY'S CHURCH DOWNTOWN

(The Dugan Center is handicap accessible.)

15 St. Mary's Place, Rochester, NY 14607

Topic: *Listening For Opportunity: How the Voices of Rochester's Homeless Led to Social Entrepreneurship*

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

Presenter: Nicholas J. Coulter, CEO and Board President of Person Centered Housing Options, Inc.

Nick was awarded the **2018 Emerging Entrepreneur Award** from the Farash Foundation. *Person Centered Housing Options Inc.* was founded by Nick and Charlie Albanese in August of 2015. In 2014, Nick was providing outreach and case management to vulnerable families and individuals on the streets and in shelters. Chuck was working with the Health Systems and seeing the same households lacking the services they needed to better their health and wellness due to a lack of safe and supportive housing services. They had heard all they needed to hear to convince them to take the path toward social change. In the wake of numerous homeless people being displaced, skyrocketing emergency room costs for the homeless, and chronic homelessness on the rise, they only had one question to answer: How would they provide permanent housing to our most vulnerable populations. The only answer to homelessness is housing. In 2015, Nick and Chuck created PCHO to implement the Housing First concept in the Rochester community. They are successfully utilizing HUD funding; creating successful public-private partnerships; reducing emergency department use by the homeless; and changing the landscape of homelessness in Rochester. PCHO is now in its 3rd year of operation, serving nearly 1000+ households a year, and successfully employing 25+ staff.



➡ We will also view the short documentary film, **Swan Was Here**, which dramatically examines homelessness in Rochester through a single person's journey.

Downtown Community Forum is a Community Service of the

Southeast Rochester Catholic Community

(Blessed Sacrament, St. Boniface and St. Mary's Churches)

All presentations are free and open to the public. Snacks Served.