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## KERI KERPER

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
CITY OF OLEAN

Keri comes from a military family with a long line of members who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces. Instead of enlisting in the military, Keri chose a different path to service. She opted to attend college and serve her Country as a civil servant to help enrich the quality of life of her community.

After graduating college, the City of Olean opened its arms to her and she moved here in 2003. Former Mayor Quinlan hired Keri as a Stenographer in the Community Development Department, and her service has continued on in various capacities in the division over the past 18 years under four different Mayoral administrations.

In 2017, upon Mary George's retirement, Mayor Aiello promoted her to the Community Development Program Coordinator where she plans, directs and carries out activities of the department including administering projects in coordination with Federal and State Officials. That's the job description on paper, at least. In reality, what Keri does for Olean is much more far-reaching, involved, and critical to the quality of life of every person in our community.

Keri has worked tirelessly pursuing grant opportunities, civic projects, and process improvements with key members of the City government and local business leaders to improve Olean's infrastructure, housing and services.

If you've ever enjoyed Olean's beautiful new downtown, gone to an event at Lincoln Park, witnessed the new construction taking place at the corner of West State and North Union, found quality affordable housing options, taken an OATS bus, or generally enjoyed any community activities in Olean, Keri has had a hand in making that experience a reality.



New York State Economic Development Council  
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Keri serves as the President of Upstate Economic Opportunities, Inc., a not-for-profit that works to ameliorate poverty and improve living conditions for residents of upstate New York. She is the Treasurer and a Commissioner of the Olean Housing Authority, as well as a Board member of the Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority, the Olean Local Development Corporation and the NY Walkability Action Institute. Each of these organizations shares a common mission: to improve quality of life for individual residents and our community as a whole.

Keri is a member of the Cattaraugus County Economic Development Team. She serves as the Fair Housing Officer, Equal Employment Opportunity & Wage Rate Officer, Minority & Women Business Enterprise Officer, and Section 3 and Title VI Coordinators for the community. Ms. Kerper also takes pride in being the Managing Director of the Olean Urban Renewal Agency, City of Olean Planning Board, Revolving Loan Fund and Project Loan Committees.

Keri is appreciative to be a part of a team that finds opportunities and works together to initiate, fund and complete projects such as the Brownfield Opportunity Area redevelopment, North Union Street Reconstruction, Downtown Farmers' Market Project, Olean Area Transit System, among many others. She was also a catalyst in the Downtown Revitalization Initiative and the reconstruction of the parapet and roof on the former Manufacturers' Hanover Bank building, thus allowing the transfer of the property to Savarino Companies for development.

