



Diane Cooper-Currier
Executive Director

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How many years have you worked at OCO?

35 years. I have been Executive Director since Dec. 2007.

What do you like best about your job?

I have the privilege of seeing all the wonderful impact OCO employees from across the agency have on changing people's lives. I am so proud of their dedication to those they serve, their programs, this agency and community. Seeing OCO's mission being carried out by these dedicated employees is inspiring and to hear from those we serve about how an employee helped them through a difficult time, supported them, built trust with them and changed their life. It can't get any better than that!

What have you learned about yourself since you began working at OCO?

Since I've worked here a long time, there have been many things I've learned about myself. I've learned how to blend a caring heart with a practical, "business" sense to make decisions that consider both what's best for people and the business; I've learned how important it is to be aligned with an organization's mission and keep that in the forefront of everything I do. For me, OCO is an avocation, not a vocation – it is who I am and not just who I am at work.

Tell us about one thing you have done that has made OCO better:

I, along with a team of employees and board members, led a reorganization of the agency that streamlined processes and improved the use of technology in the organization in order to be more efficient, effective and better document the great work this organization does.

A Favorite Saying:

"Decide with the head, deliver with the heart."



Patrick J. Waite
Deputy Executive Director

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Programs: OCO's Services

How many years have you worked at OCO?

I have worked for OCO 39 years, becoming the Deputy Executive Director in 2016. Prior to this position, I served as the Senior Director of Residential Services for many years. Throughout my career at OCO, I have been a Case Manager, Case Manager Supervisor, Program Coordinator, and Department Director.

What do you like best about your job?

I like the diversity of the job and all the people I come in contact with. As the Deputy Executive Director, I have the opportunity to work and interface with all the services the agency provides. It is exciting to see new opportunities come to fruition.

What have you learned about yourself since you began working at OCO?

I have learned that I do have to be organized and accepting that small successes are “great successes.” Patience and persistence pays off.

Tell us about one thing you have done that has made OCO better:

It has been a pleasure to be involved in the development of quality housing for Oswego County residents. Everyone deserves to have a “home that is safe and affordable.” Improving and developing housing, in particular for persons with disabilities has been a great honor for me.



Maria Chatterton
Sr. Director of Finance

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How many years have you worked at OCO?

6 Months – Hired November 2020

What do you like best about your job?

I like knowing that OCO will be able to support its employees and community. I support this by engaging in developing processes and efficiencies that result in OCO's financial stability. Looking at our next step ... and the step after that means we remain available to our community to serve their needs.

What have you learned about yourself since you began working at OCO?

There is always something new to learn and see and a lesson is every experience. And though I have always believed this; OCO is definitely a place where you have to be open to new experiences.

Tell us about one thing you have done that has made OCO better:

I shall return with my thoughts when I see a few projects come to fruition.



Betsy Copps
Senior Director of Operations

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Programs: Corporate Operations, including Corporate Compliance, Facilities, Information Technology, Planning, Public Relations, Safety, Internet Media.

How many years have you worked at OCO?

10 years, 6 as Director of Information and Compliance and 4 as Senior Director of Operations.

What do you like best about your job?

The opportunity to work with such a diverse group of people who are amazingly skilled at what they do. More than that, they are passionate about OCO's purpose! I enjoy the creative process and that feeling of successfully engaging a team to effect positive change; when the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

What have you learned about yourself since you began working at OCO?

That I will never stop learning! Also, that it's more important than ever to surround myself with leaders who are ahead of the curve on what's coming in the regulatory worlds of compliance, strategic planning and safety, as well as technology and facilities management. Information moves too quickly for each of us to be subject experts on all of the areas we lead. We must be interdependent and collaborative.

Tell us about one thing you have done that has made OCO better:

I have been able to bring teams together to improve the use of technology, staffing, and systems as well as universal standards and procedures that make our work more efficient, more environmentally friendly, and easier to manage among multiple staff members.



Bridget Dolbear
Development Coordinator

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How many years have you worked at OCO?

More than 15 years. I have been fortunate to have worked in three OCO programs before starting my position in June, 2018 as the Development Coordinator.

What do you like best about your job?

I have the opportunity to share stories about the meaningful work OCO programs carry out every single day. I am proud to be a part of an agency that truly has a positive impact on people's lives.

What have you learned about yourself since you began working at OCO?

I started my career with OCO at the SAF program in 1999, working with survivors of domestic violence and after a number of years, transitioned to the After-School program to work with high school students. When a position became available in the Nutrition program, I jumped at the chance to assist the senior population. I have witnessed the most heartbreaking to the most heartwarming stories during my time here at OCO. I have learned that for me, job satisfaction comes from knowing the work we do empowers people from all walks of life to conquer challenges and become their best selves. As so perfectly stated by Maria Robinson, "Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."

Tell us about one thing you have done that has made OCO better:

The fund development efforts, including events such as Bowl-A-Fun and Giving Thanks, the annual campaign and planned giving provide OCO with a source of unrestricted funds that would otherwise not be available to our agency. The funds raised are allocated to programs to cover expenses that are not allowable under their funding streams. I enjoy playing a part in providing OCO programs with resources that allow them to improve their services and meet our consumer's needs.



Cindy Seeber
Director of Human Resources

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Programs: Human Resources, Training, Wellness, OCO on the Go