

**CONTACT:**

Catherine Shick
Public and Community Relations Manager
Office - (716) 935-6692
Cell - (716) 982-3529
csnick@foodbankwny.org

Food Bank of WNY names four new members to Board of Directors

BUFFALO — Jerry Sheldon, Chairperson of the Food Bank of WNY's Board of Directors, is pleased to announce that Nancy Blaschak, David J. Crisp, Louis M. Jacobs and Barrie Yochim were elected to the Board during its recent annual meeting.

Blaschak is the Program Director for the Health Leadership Fellows Program for the Health Foundation of Western and Central New York and also serves as a consultant for non-profit organizations. She previously was employed by the American Red Cross for more than 35 years in various management positions and served as an Executive Director of the Greater Buffalo Chapter for more than 20 years. In 2013 she was named the CEO of the American Red Cross' combined Western New York and Finger Lakes regions serving 17 counties. Blaschak earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University at Buffalo, a Master of Business Administration from Canisius College and completed her post graduate studies at the Hauser Center for Not for Profit Organizations at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She currently resides in Eden with her husband.

Crisp is the Executive Vice President-Business Development for O-AT-KA Milk Products Cooperative, Inc. in Batavia, N.Y., and is responsible for driving the growth of their dairy-based beverage business. Prior to his career with O-AT-KA, Crisp has held progressive positions, in both Canada and the U.S., in sales, marketing, new business development and general management for companies such as Nestle, Lactalis, Mott's USA and Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc. Crisp is a graduate of Seneca College in Toronto, where he earned an honor's degree in business administration with a major in marketing. He previously served as a member of the Food Bank's Board of Directors from 2010 to 2016 and was a member of the organization's Community Advisor Council from 2016 to 2018. Crisp resides in Clarence Center with his wife.

Jacobs is the Co-Chief Executive Officer of Delaware North. In his position, Jacobs is responsible for the long-term strategic direction of the company, determining mergers and acquisition candidates, positioning the company in emerging markets and working with financial institutions on overall business strategy. Jacobs previously served as Executive Vice President of Delaware North, President of Delaware North Companies International and Chairman of Delaware North's Australia Division. Additionally, Jacobs serves as an alternate governor for the Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League. He also is active in equestrian sports as he serves on the board of directors for numerous horse shows and foundations. Jacobs earned his bachelor's and master's degree in business administration from Harvard University. He currently resides in East Aurora with his wife and their two children.

Yochim is the Executive Director of Meals on Wheels of the Jamestown Area since 1999. He is a past president and past vice president of the Meals on Wheels Association New York. Prior to Meals on Wheels, Yochim served as Director of Communications with United Way of Southern Chautauqua County and was the founder and first chairman of United Way's Statewide Marketing and Communications Task Force for New York State. Yochim is currently a member of the Chautauqua Leadership Network and serves as the chairman of its Network Development Committee. He earned a bachelor's degree in sports communication and journalism from Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio. Yochim currently resides in Jamestown with his wife and their two daughters.

"Nancy, David, Louis and Barrie are extremely qualified additions to our already fantastic Board of Directors. They all possess unique talents and have a collective passion for helping the community, which is a great asset to the Food Bank of WNY as we continue to fight hunger one day at a time," Sheldon said.

###

About the Food Bank of WNY

The Food Bank of WNY is the primary hunger-relief organization in Western New York, obtaining and distributing food to 335 member agencies, including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, group homes and youth programs in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara counties. Through these agencies, the Food Bank of WNY serves as many as 140,000 individuals in any given month, including 45,300 households, 54,500 children and infants and 18,370 seniors. For more information, visit www.foodbankwny.org.