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## **RCIL MOVING TO FORMER BOSTON STORE IN DOWNTOWN UTICA**

The Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. (RCIL), in partnership with Charles A. Gaetano Construction Corporation, is moving into its new downtown Utica headquarters, located at 131 Genesee Street (the former Boston Store), this week and will be fully operational at its new location Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

RCIL is leasing two floors and close to 200 employees will be relocated into the building. As part of the move, RCIL is consolidating the staff and operations from its previous office locations at 409 Columbia Street and 258 Genesee Street.

The Many Hearts Senior Care Center and At Home Independent Care (AHIC) will continue to operate out of the Dorothy Smith Center for Advocacy at 1607 Genesee Street.

Charles A. Gaetano Construction Corporation was contracted earlier this year to redevelop the building, and its crew has worked diligently to ensure the project's success and timely completion.

Over \$2 million has been invested in the project, including funding from Empire State Development (ESD), The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, M&T/Partners Bank Charitable Trust, JM McDonald Foundation and the James Wurz, Jr. and Edward Wurz, Sr. Foundation with technical assistance provided by Mohawk Valley EDGE.

RCIL is the largest Independent Living Center in New York, encompassing Centers in Utica, Herkimer and Amsterdam with staff also based in Watertown.

As a civil rights organization, RCIL advocates for people with disabilities and provides a wide range of services for thousands of individuals throughout the entire State.

As one of the largest employers in Oneida County, RCIL has a major impact on the local economy.

**RCIL CEO Zvia McCormick stated,** “A project of this magnitude cannot be executed without collaboration. I thank the RCIL Board, and our community partners, as this project would not have been possible without their continued guidance and support.”

**McCormick continued,** “I also thank Brian Gaetano and Charles A. Gaetano Construction Corporation for their partnership throughout this process.”

**Charles A. Gaetano Construction Corporation President Brian Gaetano stated,** “The former Boston Store is an iconic building with a proud history. We are excited to work with RCIL as their relocation will breathe new life and reestablish the building as an anchor in downtown Utica.”

**Empire State Development President, CEO and Commissioner Howard Zemsky stated,** “In helping to transform the former Boston Store building, New York State is providing a new home to RCIL and adding to the revitalization of downtown Utica.”

**The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties President/CEO Alicia Dicks stated,** “The Community Foundation’s investment in RCIL’s move reflects our continued commitment to a new vision for Downtown Utica. Investing in our future through RCIL and other nonprofit partners strengthens the fabric of the community, advancing the kind of collaboration that will better serve RCIL’s constituents and employees even as it supports an important anchor for the urban core of our two counties.”

**Mohawk Valley EDGE President Steven J. DiMeo stated,** “RCIL is a vital employer and provider of necessary services to our region, are excited for this development and applaud their decision to invest in downtown Utica.”

A formal ribbon cutting and open house for the public will be held later this summer.

More information about RCIL can be found at <https://www.rcil.com/>, including exciting career opportunities and the services available to you and your family.