

**Debra L. Schimpf**  
**CEO, Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP)**  
**Biographical Statement**

Deb Schimpf has been the Chief Executive Officer of Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP) for the past Twenty-five years and has spent more than 34 years in leadership positions at SCAP.

Under Deb's leadership, SCAP has become a community leader expanding homeless and housing services to include transitional and permanent housing; worked with the faith-based community to create the Community Crisis Network (now called Community Resource Network), a flagship collaboration addressing basic needs and resource navigation; created a court advocacy program for eviction prevention; expanded employment and retention services; created an integrated model for intensive case management; and expanded early learning services for children birth to age 8 with comprehensive family supports.

Deb has been a visionary and steadfast promoter of integrated systems for the poor and works to engage community agencies, government, and the private sector to streamline services and make them user friendly with a high degree of positive outcomes.

Deb has been a strong advocate for low income and other at-risk groups, committed to identifying and addressing unmet needs, ensuring a strong community response. She has dedicated her time, as well as that of her staff to numerous task forces and study efforts designed to improve the quality of life of Schenectady's poorest individuals and families, including the Schenectady Eviction Task Force, Homeless Services Support Network, and One Schenectady to name a few.

When Deb assumed the role of Executive Director in 1998, SCAP was financially struggling after years of funding cuts and struggling program initiatives that were not adequately funded. Deb took the organization from \$1.7 million with a \$300,000 deficit fund balance to a thriving organization with \$11 million budget and \$2 million fund balance.

Deb serves as co-chair of the Homeless Services Planning Board, was chairperson of the multi-agency Community Crisis Network for nearly 20 years, served for more than 15 years on the Board of Directors for the New York State Community Action Association, is a past board member of the Visiting Nurse Services of Schenectady/Saratoga Counties and CARES Inc. and presently serves as the Treasurer of the Board of Directors for Healthy Capital District. Deb was a long-term member of the Rotary Club of Schenectady and the Coalition for a Healthy Schenectady. Under Deb's leadership SCAP played a pivotal role in the Schenectady U Matter Survey – the most comprehensive survey of its kind in Schenectady County addressing health disparities. Deb provided leadership to a five-agency coalition that provided crisis intervention to Rotterdam Junction and areas of Schenectady and Scotia in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, providing intensive intervention to hundreds of families. When the COVID-19 pandemic required NY PAUSE, Deb worked with local agencies to create the One Schenectady Coalition providing emergency food and other forms of basic needs assistance to those quarantined and later expanded to those affected by economic conditions of the pandemic.

Deb has a graduate certificate in Public Policy from the University at Albany, a bachelor's degree in business administration from Empire State College and she has attended executive leadership institutes at Syracuse University and UCLA. Deb has made her home in Schenectady County for 34 years and raised her two daughters Alyssa and Danielle with her husband Ron. Together they enjoy family, friends, and travel.