



Community Action Southold Town, Inc.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CAST ANNOUNCES NEW HOME TO MEET THE GROWING NEED ON THE NORTH FORK**

*Larger, permanent location furthers CAST's mission to be a true Community Resource Center*

**Greenport, New York – April 23, 2021** – After more than 55 years using rented spaces in multiple locations, CAST is proud to announce its plans to move to a new permanent home, the former Southold Opera House. Currently in contract, the new location will help CAST further its mission to be a true community resource center that will welcome clients, the artistic community, and all the residents of the North Fork.

“After searching for an appropriate home for CAST for many years, this property is a dream realized, providing all we need to serve the North Fork community while also offering cultural and arts opportunities for all to enjoy,” stated Marc Sokol, CAST Board President.

The former Southold Opera House is located within the business hamlet in the heart of Southold Town, offering easier access to more residents, enough space for all of CAST's essential programs and services plus plentiful parking. The building was also once the former home of the Southold Methodist Church.

“The North Fork is growing and changing, and CAST is growing and changing with it. Our purchase of the former Southold Opera House represents the next phase of our development, providing us with enough space to effectively meet the community's growing needs,” said Cathy Demeroto, Executive Director, CAST.

CAST's new home will be able to accommodate a larger food pantry and sharing room for clothing and household items, room for essential education programs for both children and adults, private meeting/interview spaces, a teaching kitchen for culinary and hospitality training, and a community garden to grow fresh food.

“For decades, CAST has provided vital services to North Fork residents in need. I am excited that CAST will finally have a permanent home centrally located to meet the needs of the community,” said Suffolk County Legislator Al Krupski.

This move will ensure CAST continues to provide opportunities for advancement while serving as a safety net for those in need across the North Fork, now and for generations to come. And as an added benefit to our community, this historic building will continue to nurture the local cultural arts by hosting performances and community events.

“We look forward to finally opening our doors as the CAST Community Resource Center – continuing to work with our partners, friends and clients, while also meeting and serving new neighbors. Even our name will take on new meaning as CAST will transition to become the Center for Advocacy, Support and Transformation,” added Demeroto.

### **About CAST**

Founded in 1965, CAST has supported underserved and vulnerable populations with food, shelter, education, employment, and health insecurity. Its mission is to provide a safety net and promote self-sufficiency for North Fork residents in need. The organization serves a diverse population, including seniors, people living with disabilities, single mothers, children and the working poor, with dignity and compassion. CAST’s vision is to build a community where every member is free from worry about basic necessities and has the opportunity to build a better future for themselves and their families.

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