



Upper Shore Regional Council Celebrates New Hire, Maureen O'Shea Fitzgerald, Manager of Grants and Programs

Chestertown, MD (June 12, 2023) - The Upper Shore Regional Council (USRC) has hired Maureen O'Shea Fitzgerald as Manager of Grants and Programs, made effective May 24. Fitzgerald's breadth of expertise and educational achievements position her for success in this new endeavor.

In this position, Fitzgerald will oversee the execution of the \$10 million Rural Maryland Economic Fund Grant, awarded to the USRC by the State of Maryland. The primary objective of this grant is to stimulate economic activity, private sector investment, and job opportunities in the region. Through collaborative efforts to determine funding priorities on the Upper Shore, USRC will advance a wide range of projects within Kent, Cecil, and Queen Anne's Counties and the region at large. Fitzgerald's role will contribute to fostering regional economic development and enhancing the overall quality of life.

"We are thrilled to welcome Maureen O'Shea Fitzgerald to our organization," shared Susan O'Neill, Executive Director of USRC. "With her profound commitment to the community, Maureen is well-prepared to spearhead the Rural Maryland Economic Fund Grant. Maureen is eager to assist the counties in our region in addressing economic and infrastructure challenges. As an organization dedicated to building stronger communities, I am excited to collaborate with her and see the positive impact she will have on the growth and development of the Upper Shore region."

Fitzgerald brings over a decade of experience in real estate and agriculture to her new role. She also serves as a real estate agent for Long & Foster Companies, catering to Northern Delaware, Southeastern PA, and Cecil County, MD, a position she has held since 2013.

Most recently, Fitzgerald served as an Agriculture Specialist for the Cecil County Government for four years. In that capacity, she took the lead in supporting the county's farmers, raising awareness about the importance of agriculture, and ultimately strengthening the local economy. During her tenure, Fitzgerald developed new programming, implemented effective marketing strategies, and organized events that significantly elevated the county's involvement in the agriculture community, fostering the growth of this vital business sector.

"With my extensive experience and active involvement in Cecil County over the years, I am excited to embark on the next phase of my career with the Upper Shore Regional Council to expand my impact," said Fitzgerald. "I am dedicated to planning and implementing programs that improve the quality of life for residents, businesses, and the overall landscape of the counties and beyond."

The USRC has full confidence that Fitzgerald's role will significantly contribute to the physical, economic, and social development of the region.

To learn more about the USRC, visit the [website](#).

About the Upper Shore Regional Council: Since 2003, the Upper Shore Regional Council (USRC) has fostered planning and development in Cecil, Kent, and Queen Anne's counties. USRC affords federal, state, county, and local governments a regional forum to identify issues and opportunities. USRC plans and implements programs to improve the quality of life in the Upper Shore Region of Maryland.

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