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Director of Arizona Department of Economic Security to Keynote Community Options' 20th Anniversary Conference

PRINCETON, NJ – To celebrate Community Options providing service in New York for 20 years, the national nonprofit will hold its annual, national conference from October 4-7 at the Grand Hyatt on East 42nd Street in New York City. Keynoting the special occasion will be the Honorable Timothy Jeffries, the Director of Arizona's Department of Economic Security (DES).

“It is a truly an honor and a privilege to be selected as the keynote speaker for such an amazing and inspiring organization like Community Options,” said Director Timothy Jeffries. “Community Options is a values-based leader in serving individuals with disabilities with the kindness, care, support and dignity. Similarly, Arizona is national leader in serving individuals with developmental disabilities. I am very proud of my beloved DES colleagues, and plan to give passionate voice to their noble work at the 20th Anniversary Community Options Conference.”

On March 2, 2015, Director Jeffries joyfully commenced his current vocation thanks to the humbling cabinet appointment of Arizona Governor Doug Ducey. Over the past 18 months, the 44 year old agency has been radically and beautifully transformed with a heartfelt *People First, People Always* approach to the agency's 7,700 colleagues and 2.2 million clients. To fuel this, Jeffries visited all 164 DES locations and sites, including 24 state-owned group homes for clients with developmental disabilities. Thanks to the amazing work, commitment and love of over 2,000 DES colleagues privileged to serve in the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), Arizona DES DDD was ranked number one by United Cerebral Palsy for the fourth consecutive year, and fifth year out of the past 7 years. To thank, honor and celebrate these great colleagues, Jeffries directed the effort to design and deploy significant salary adjustments for front-line personnel to triage an employee turnover crisis and stabilize engagement and care for treasured clients.

Director Jeffries is a “blue-collar corporate fixer” by trade, and has served on numerous corporate boards. Jeffries previously served as senior vice president at IHS, Inc. in Colorado where he led various global business optimization efforts, and he continues to serve as the Executive Chairman of ChemResearch Company in Arizona. Jeffries also serves on the boards of the Arizona Workforce Advisory Council, Arizona Human Trafficking Council, Child Help of Arizona, Duke University Catholic Center and the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation. Jeffries has also served on the boards of the Arizona Commerce Authority, Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Arizona, Arizona Voice for Crime Victims, Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) and the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA).

Jeffries earned a Bachelor of Science in political science from Santa Clara University, and was voted “Most Inspirational Player” by his teammates on the nationally-ranked Division II football team. In 2003, he graduated from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business with a Master of Business Administration in the Global Executive program, and was selected by his classmates to present the class valedictory address.

Tim and his beloved wife Mary Frances met at Santa Clara University in 1984. They have been married 29 years, and have two daughters and two grandchildren. Their youngest daughter, Rachel, is a published author and sophomore at Duke University in North Carolina. Their oldest daughter, Alicia, owns a tax consultancy practice in Colorado, and lives with her two children, Scarlett and Michael.

For more information about the conference, please contact Lisa Smith at Lisa.Smith@comop.org or 609-951-9900.

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About Community Options, Inc.:

For over 25 years, Community Options has developed housing and employment programs for people with disabilities – serving thousands of people through 38 offices across 10 states. Community Options provides advocacy assistance to empower people with disabilities because all people – regardless of ability level – should live and work in the community with dignity, choice and self-determination.

For more information please visit our website: www.comop.org and to follow along with the ComOpCares campaign, search #ComOpCares on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.