



RESOURCE  
CENTER

## Resource Center

### Kevin Pierce Joins Resource Center as Chief Operating Officer

#### Architect, sustainability leader and advocate for urban agriculture takes helm at Resource Center as new COO

08.03.2011– CHICAGO, IL – The Resource Center is pleased to announce that Kevin Pierce, AIA, is joining the organization as Chief Operating Officer beginning July, 2011. Kevin is an award-winning architect and planner with 20 years of executive experience managing for-profit organizations, most recently as Managing Director of Shaw Sustainable Design Solutions of Illinois, LLC, a sustainability consulting practice located in Chicago. A board member of the Resource Center for nearly ten years, he has spent the last five as its Chairman.

“The Resource Center has been a sustainability thought-leader since its inception—long before the concept was even a glimmer in the public consciousness. It has an amazing history and a record of continuous innovation. I look forward helping the organization scale up to meet its remarkable potential in an environment that (finally) is beginning to recognize the power of sustainability to enhance quality of life for everyone.”

As an outcome-focused, seasoned, and strategic leader, Kevin will concentrate on strengthening the performance culture of the organization and leveraging a talented and diverse staff to advance the Resource Center’s mission. He will also serve as Development Director to grow partnerships, drive sustainable revenue opportunities, and lead the pursuit of resources critical to fulfilling the vision of the organization. In addition to business acumen and credibility within the sustainability community, he has extensive experience helping high performance integrated teams bring projects to completion. He will work closely with Resource Center Founder and President Ken Dunn to enhance the organization’s capacity and outreach, and to execute its recently developed three-year strategic plan.

Kevin has held leading positions in prominent Chicago architecture and planning firms, including Lohan Associates and Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. For eight years, he managed business affairs and served as Director of Architecture at Farr Associates where he engineered a four-fold increase in revenues per person. A member of the US Green Building Council, and a board member of the American Institute of Architects Chicago and Illinois chapters, Kevin is regularly invited to speak at

regional and national conferences on sustainability. He is a steering committee member of the Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council and Advocates for Urban Agriculture, organizations dedicated to utilizing community agriculture and local food systems for the betterment of Chicago's citizens. A resident of Chicago for over twenty years, Kevin has participated in professional development seminars at Harvard and Northwestern University. He received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Oregon, cum laude, in 1985.

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#### About the Resource Center

The Resource Center is a 40 year-old Chicago-based non-profit which, through its recycling, urban agriculture, and other programs, focuses on improving sustainability and quality of life through creative reuse of unseen and neglected resources in the urban environment.

An early example of a non-profit that advances its mission using business methods (a model now referred to as a "social enterprise") the organization operates on a two-million dollar annual budget, employs 27 staff and engages over 800 volunteers annually.

It is distinguished by its efforts in starting the recycling movement in Chicago in the early 1970s, and in the development of a proven model for turning vacant city lots into productive, self-sufficient community farms. Its most visible project is City Farm Clybourn, in the Cabrini Green neighborhood on Chicago's near north side.

#### **Twitter Pitch**

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#### **News Facts**

Resource Center moves forward as a sustainability thought-leader with appointment of new COO, Kevin Pierce. The Resource Center is a shining example of a non-profit that advances its mission using business methods (a model now referred to as a "social enterprise") the organization operates on a two-million dollar annual budget, employs 27 staff and engages over 800 volunteers annually.

City Farm, Resource Center's urban agriculture project, is one of Chicago's only producing urban farms. City Farm named one of top ten urban farms in the nation by Natural Home Magazine. Resource Center is Chicago's largest not-for-profit recycling agency.

### Resource Links

[About the Resource Center \(http://www.resourcecenterchicago.org/\)](http://www.resourcecenterchicago.org/)

[City Farm \(http://cityfarmchicago.wordpress.com/\)](http://cityfarmchicago.wordpress.com/)

### Tags

[Chicago](#), [urban agriculture](#), [recycling](#), [Resource Center](#), [sustainability](#)



*Kevin Pierce, Resource Center COO*

### About & Contact

#### Resource Center

For over 35 years, the Resource Center, a non-profit environmental education organization, has led the way in demonstrating innovative techniques for recycling and reusing materials.

#### Contacting Resource Center

##### Resource Center

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