

## IPEI names first executive director

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### ITHACA — The Ithaca Public [Education](#)

[I](#) Initiative has named Christine Sanchirico as its first executive director.

Sanchirico formerly served as executive director of Catholic [Charities](#)

, executive director of the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance (now the Cancer Resource Center), executive administrator of the Women’s Community Building, and interim executive director of Literacy Volunteers of Tompkins County (now Tompkins Learning Partners).

The not-for-profit IPEI provides gifts and grants for projects and programs in the Ithaca City [School](#)

[D](#) District.

“It is a true honor to join IPEI at such an [exciting](#)

time in its history and to have the chance to work in partnership with such a dedicated group of board members and volunteers,” Sanchirico said in a statement.

“I am the proud parent of three adult children, all of whom attended ICSD [schools](#)

from kindergarten through high school. I witnessed first-hand the challenges and successes of our local educational system. I believe strongly in the necessity for alternative sources of funding to provide for those areas in which there are gaps in service and unmet needs.”

Most recently, Sanchirico has worked as an administrator at Cornell University. She has an master’s degree in organizational communication from Ithaca [College](#)

and a bachelor’s degree from Cornell.

“We are thrilled to have someone of Chris’ experience and level of commitment to our community and its youth join our organization,” said IPEI Board President Terry Byrnes.