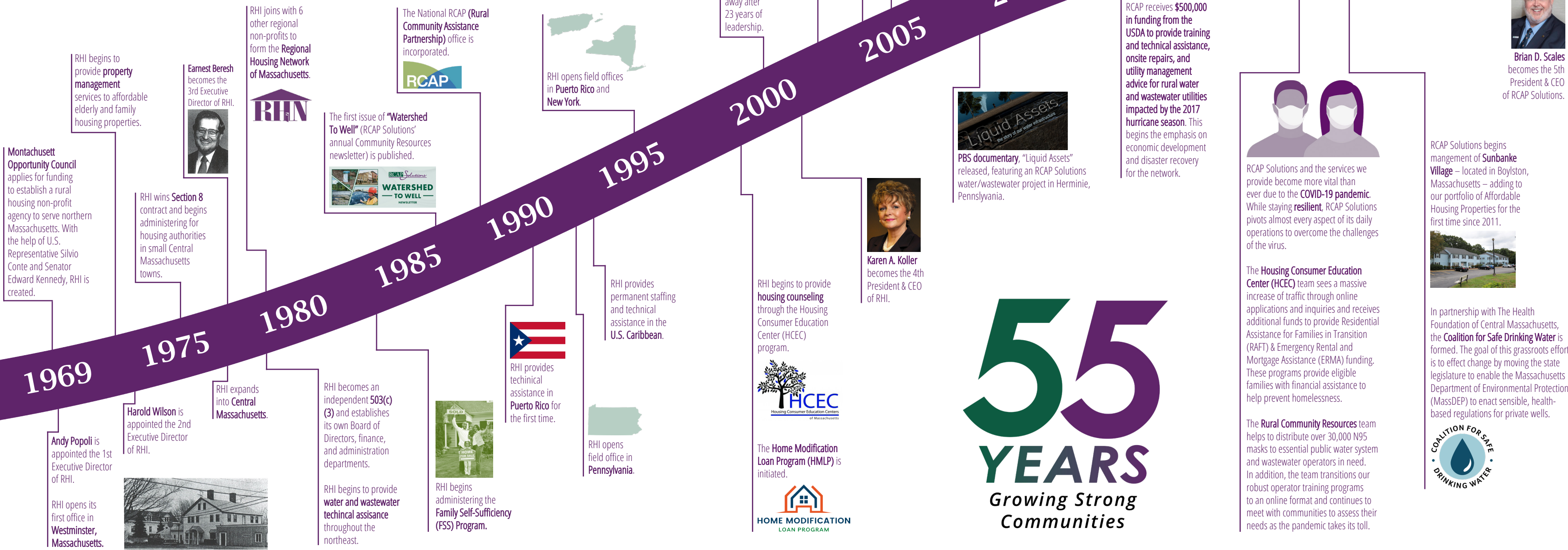


# Our History



**Founded in 1969**, RCAP Solutions (then named Rural Housing Improvement or RHI) started as a “delegate agency” under the Montachusett Opportunity Council (MOC). Through the work of Representative Silvio Conte and Senator Edward Kennedy, RHI was awarded a \$140,000 federal start-up grant and was initially staffed largely with VISTA Volunteers. RHI’s original service area included just 7 towns in northern Worcester County.



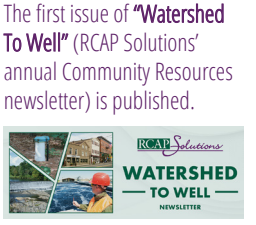
Montachusett Opportunity Council applies for funding to establish a rural housing non-profit agency to serve northern Massachusetts. With the help of U.S. Representative Silvio Conte and Senator Edward Kennedy, RHI is created.



Earnest Beresh becomes the 3rd Executive Director of RHI.



RHI joins with 6 other regional non-profits to form the Regional Housing Network of Massachusetts.



The first issue of “Watershed To Well” (RCAP Solutions’ annual Community Resources newsletter) is published.

The National RCAP (Rural Community Assistance Partnership) office is incorporated.



RHI provides technical assistance in Puerto Rico for the first time.



RHI opens field office in Pennsylvania.



RHI begins administering the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program.



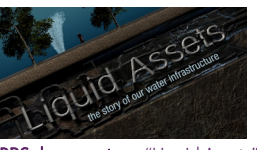
RHI begins to provide housing counseling through the Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC) program.



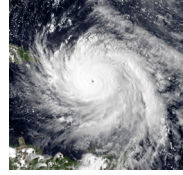
The Home Modification Loan Program (HMLP) is initiated.



Karen A. Koller becomes the 4th President & CEO of RHI.



PBS documentary, “Liquid Assets” released, featuring an RCAP Solutions water/wastewater project in Herminie, Pennsylvania.



Hurricanes Maria and Irma hit Puerto Rico and the USVI, causing widespread destruction. Immediately after, RCAP Solutions staff in Puerto Rico participate in the recovery and clean-up efforts, in many cases being the first to respond.



RCAP Solutions consolidates its corporate and headquarter offices into one center, located at 191 May Street in Worcester, Massachusetts.



RCAP Solutions and the services we provide become more vital than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While staying resilient, RCAP Solutions pivots almost every aspect of its daily operations to overcome the challenges of the virus.

The Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC) team sees a massive increase of traffic through online applications and inquiries and receives additional funds to provide Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) & Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance (ERMA) funding. These programs provide eligible families with financial assistance to help prevent homelessness.

The Rural Community Resources team helps to distribute over 30,000 N95 masks to essential public water system and wastewater operators in need. In addition, the team transitions our robust operator training programs to an online format and continues to meet with communities to assess their needs as the pandemic takes its toll.



In partnership with The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts, the Coalition for Safe Drinking Water is formed. The goal of this grassroots effort is to effect change by moving the state legislature to enable the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to enact sensible, health-based regulations for private wells.



Brian D. Scales becomes the 5th President & CEO of RCAP Solutions.

RCAP Solutions embarks on a multi-year Strategic Planning process in order to prepare for the organization’s future. It was instrumental to have representatives from all departments within the organization and the board of directors participate in this important initiative – preparing us to innovate how we operate!

# 55 YEARS

Growing Strong Communities