

## **Thomas Ess, Associate Vice President, Residential Services, People Inc.**

With more than 14 years of extensive experience in large scale incident command and emergency mitigation, Thomas Ess is one of the most knowledgeable and experienced emergency preparedness professionals in Western New York.

He's received extensive training in the Emergency Management / Incident Command System and holds a certificate for leadership in crisis from Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Tom has combined his knowledge and experience to fit the needs and organization of human service agencies, and currently serves as the emergency preparedness coordinator for People Inc. In this role, he helps the agency, which serves more than 12,500 people, plan, prepare and execute crisis and emergency plans.

Thomas also serves as an associate vice president in Residential Services at People Inc., is the assistant fire chief of the East Aurora Fire Department and has been in law enforcement for 10 years as a public safety dispatcher.