



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Grace Place for Children and Families Announces 2020 Board of Directors**

Naples, FL – May 13, 2020– Grace Place for Children and Families announces the appointment of three new members of its Board of Directors, as well as the full slate of officers and board members for 2020.

Joining the Board of Directors are Richard Grows, Moira Lardakis, and Cathy Morton. *"All three of our newest Board members embody the spirit of Grace Place and bring talent, expertise and energy to the organization. We are very fortunate to have them on our team as we continue to strengthen the community we serve."*, Jim Bosscher, Interim CEO and Grace Place Board Chair.

Richard "Rich" Grows has been with J.P. Morgan Private Bank for 12 years. As a Senior Banker, he helps successful families simplify their financial lives as well as make meaningful decisions. Prior to joining J.P. Morgan, Grows was a Financial Representative with Thrivent Financial where he developed customized insurance and investment strategies for affluent families.

Grows currently serves on the Board of Directors & Finance Committee for St. Matthew's House, the Finance Committee for Grace Place, and is a Member of the Naples Zoobilee Committee. He previously served on the Board of Directors for Ducks Unlimited (Milwaukee, WI), the Finance Committee for the Feith YMCA, (Milwaukee, WI) as well as the Finance Committee for Crossway Church (Milwaukee, WI).

Moira Lardakis is the founder and Principal of Strategic Insurance Consulting. Prior to consulting, Lardakis worked for Progressive Insurance for 25 years, in various roles, including Chief Communications Officer, Regional General Manager and Division President.

Lardakis graduated from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and is a member of the Ohio Bar Association. She also holds a B.A. in Social Service from Cleveland State University. Her nonprofit work includes volunteering with St. Matthew's House and conducting pre-school screenings and other philanthropic work with the Navajo Nation in Gallup, NM.

Cathy Morton is a licensed CPA, currently retired. Morton holds a Master of Accounting with a concentration in Forensic Accounting from Florida Atlantic University.

Morton and her spouse have a family foundation that supports Education, Massachusetts General Hospital, Veterans, The Arts, Habitat for Humanity, and Catholic/Faith-Based Institutions

and Schools. Morton also serves on the board of the Naples Ballet and Home Base SWFL and is on the Parents Council of the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

The slate of board members for 2020 is listed below.

**Mr. James W. Bosscher**

Chair, Board of Directors

**Mr. Michael E. McGrath**

Vice Chair, Board of Directors

**Mr. Brian Miller**

Treasurer, Board of Directors

**Rev. Craig N. Goodrich**

Secretary, Board of Directors

**Mr. Mario M. Valle**

Immediate Past Chair

**Mr. Joseph D. Barnette, Jr.**

Director

**Mrs. Deborah Mathews Finch**

Director

**Richard Grows**

Director

**Mrs. Patricia A. Jilk**

Director

**Moira Lardakis**

Director

**Mr. Erik F. Lutgert**

Director

**Cathy Morton**

Director

**Mr. J. Michael McNamara**

Director

**Mr. Mitchell B. McLeod**

Director

## ABOUT GRACE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

Grace Place for Children and Families is a nonprofit family literacy center committed to providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and families. Grace Place currently enrolls over 900 individuals in its education programs. Its nationally recognized Bright Beginnings program, a Grace Place Family Literacy Model®, serves preschool children and their parents. Grace Place School Age Programs, funded by the Florida Department of Education, provide afterschool and college access programming to youth. The Adult Education program at Grace Place offers English language, literacy, computer literacy, and citizenship courses. Helping families throughout Collier County combat food insecurity, the Food Pantry at Grace Place serves over 250 families each week. Grace Place works extensively with community partners to provide medical and mental health screenings, referrals for other services, and financial literacy classes to the Golden Gate community. Grace Place offers many volunteer opportunities in its literacy programs, mentoring, adult education, and other areas. Visit [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org) to learn more.

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