

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grace Place for Children & Families Welcomes New Board Members and Ambassador Board

Naples, Fla. (April 1, 2024) – Grace Place for Children & Families is delighted to welcome four distinguished individuals to its Board of Directors, further enriching its commitment to providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and families.

With the addition of these accomplished professionals, Grace Place's Board of Directors now includes 15 leaders dedicated to expanding educational opportunities for children and families in need. "The collaboration of our Board of Directors with our staff is critical to the success at Grace Place. Our newest board members will help Grace Place strengthen our 20 years of academic programming and continue to bring visibility and expanded resources to support the students of Golden Gate," said Lara Fisher, Grace Place for Children and Families CEO.

Patrick Cassidy serves as the Senior Vice President at Charles Schwab Investment Management, where he leverages over 20 years of experience to oversee the company's governance and shape its strategies for credit and investment risk management.

Cynthia Lammert, a Vice President and Banker at the Naples office of J.P. Morgan Private Bank, is driven by a deep passion for making a meaningful impact. Her dedication shines through as she educates clients on economic matters and helps them understand the full scope of their wealth.

Drawing from a distinguished 40-year career, Dennis Letham, the former Chief Financial Officer at Anixter International, brings invaluable insights in finances, accounting, and operations. His expertise will significantly contribute to guiding Grace Place's strategic direction.

Tina Wheeler, a vice chair of Deloitte & Touche LLP and the US health care leader at Deloitte, boasts a rich 30-year background in consulting, audit, and tax services. Her wealth of experience will be a valuable asset to the board.

These four distinguished individuals will join Grace Place's esteemed board led by Michael McGrath as Board Chair, Debbie Finch as Vice Chair, Brian Miller as Board Treasurer, and Craig Goodrich as Board Secretary.

Grace Place has also recently added a Board of Ambassadors, comprised of young professionals dedicated to driving positive change in their community. Recognizing the need for diverse viewpoints and experiences, Grace Place welcomes this group of emerging leaders to the team providing support to its efforts.

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Julia Cuny will serve as the Ambassador's Board Chair. Cuny is a graduate of the University of Miami and Northeastern University. She works as a Product Manager at Arthrex and specializes in developing products for meniscal repair.

Dallas Clarke, the Board of Ambassador's Vice Chair, is a graduate of the University of Akron. Clarke is currently the Product Improvement QE Supervisor at Arthrex. Before his role at Arthrex, he was the Validation Engineering Senior Supervisor for Catalent Pharma Inc. in Bloomington, Indiana.

Grace Place for Children & Families looks forward to the invaluable contributions of its new board members and ambassadors as it continues to empower families with access to quality education.

ABOUT GRACE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Grace Place for Children and Families, celebrating its 20th year, is a nonprofit family literacy center committed to providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and families. Grace Place enrolls over 1200 individuals in its education programs each year. 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, provides afterschool, summer, and college access programming to K-12 youth. The Adult Education program at Grace Place offers English language, literacy, computer literacy, and citizenship courses. Additionally, the Food Pantry at Grace Place serves over 300 families each week. Collaborating with community partners, we offer medical and mental health screenings, referrals, and financial literacy classes in Golden Gate. Explore volunteer opportunities in literacy, mentoring, adult education, and more at www.graceplacenaples.org.

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