

NEWS RELEASE

January 24, 2025

For immediate release

Media contact: Cara Scarola Hansen

The Lord's Place Public Relations Counsel

cara@yourmissionmarketing.com

561-632-6747

Announcing Interim CEO of The Lord's Place

Kerry Diaz accepts interim position as long-term CEO Diana Stanley retires.

The Lord's Place Board of Directors recently announced the decision to appoint an interim and highly experienced leader to take over Diana Stanley's role of CEO on a temporary basis. Kerry Diaz, J.D., has agreed to step into the role of Interim CEO while the CEO search committee continues to identify the agency's next permanent leader.

"Finding the right individual to replace Diana after 17 remarkable years of dedication and visionary leadership in expanding services and resources for the most disadvantaged in Palm Beach County has required a thoughtful and thorough process. We want to ensure the right candidate assumes the position to continue inspiring our team, enriching our community, and, most importantly, serving those in need," stated Cornie Thornburgh, chair of the Board of Directors.

Diaz most recently served as The Lord's Place Chief Operating Officer from 2021-2023, where she oversaw the agency's operations, including its information technology, property management, and housing acquisition/expansion components. She has strong knowledge of the many dimensions of nonprofit management, including: programming, finance, advancement, research and evaluation, legal compliance, human resources, and administration. She also previously served as chief executive officer of the Quantum Foundation.

Thornburgh added, "Given Kerry's proven track record in nonprofit leadership, operations, and strategy—coupled with her compassion and love of our mission—we have full confidence in her ability to lead The Lord's Place as we continue our careful search. Additionally, Kerry is fully known to the board, staff, community, key stakeholders, and donors—making her a great choice to move into the interim role as CEO."

Stanley announced her retirement in March 2024. Her servant leadership and indefatigable work ethic have been the driving force behind The Lord's Place's growth and impact: transforming the agency from a struggling nonprofit with 30 employees into a highly-recognized organization of \$17 million in revenues—employing 130 staff, operating 15 housing campuses,

and providing services to close to 1,900 individuals annually on their journey out of homelessness. Stanley has advocated relentlessly for the most vulnerable in our community and has developed new partnerships and collaborations between local agencies—elevating and championing the local nonprofit community. She has led the agency and community in viewing the end to homelessness as more than housing: including the services and skills training that ensure individuals become productive citizens.

Diaz will officially return to The Lord's Place starting January 27, 2025. Stanley will remain CEO until February 3, 2025, ensuring a thorough handover of responsibilities and key relationships. On February 3, Stanley will become President of The Lord's Place Foundation where she will remain connected to the agency as she and a dedicated foundation board oversee donors' investments for long-term sustainability.

"Once again, we express our profound gratitude for Diana's extraordinary leadership, exemplary service to the community, and unwavering passion for making a difference in the lives of the poor and homeless. In tandem, we are most grateful to Kerry for agreeing to serve as Interim CEO. As an already valued leader within our agency and our community, Kerry will make this transition as smooth as possible as she continues to drive key initiatives, advise on strategy, and manage change until we elect a new permanent CEO," said Thornburgh.

For more information on The Lord's Place and its mission to break the cycle of homelessness for men, women, and children, visit thelordsplace.org.

About The Lord's Place

For more than 40 years, The Lord's Place has been working to break the cycle of homelessness for men, women, and children in Palm Beach County, FL, through innovative, compassionate and effective services. The Fortin Family Campus in West Palm Beach provides training and support services including: the operation of Joshua Catering; job training and placement services; clinical and care coordination; community engagement services; and a reentry program helping men and women transitioning from incarceration. The agency also owns or rents 15 supportive and graduate housing locations, as well as 47 scattered site apartments, to help house about 275 individuals every night. For more information, visit thelordsplace.org.

PHOTO ID:

[001](#): Kerry Diaz and Diana Stanley at The Lord's Place Ending Homelessness Breakfast in 2023. (Photo credit: Capehart Photography)

[Click here to view the news release.](#)

###

