



Dear friends and supporters of The Center Foundation,

I am happy to announce that the Board of Trustees of The Center Foundation has appointed Kim A. Yacoubian as my successor as Executive Director. After proudly serving in the role for 25 years, I will continue my service to the organization as President of the Board.

I set out in the 1990s with one goal – to create an organization to empower people to fulfill their potential as productive, caring, and supportive members of the community. In 1996, a survey of local women named mentoring as the most significant determinant to achievement of economic independence. I came to learn that there was not only an absence of mentorship programs in our region, but across the country.

Embarking on offering a one-of-a-kind, holistic mentorship program, we launched WomenCare® in 1997, which, then and now, provides individualized mentorship support to adult women in transition. Modeled after the success of WomenCare, we tackled concerns for the wellbeing of teens in our community by developing the Young Parents Support Network (YPSN) mentorship program in 2001 for pregnant and parenting teens, and TeenCare in 2017 for teen girls at risk of not graduating high school. To advance the organization over the years, we worked tirelessly to build collaborative relationships with local area agencies, as well as pivotal partnerships with organizations such as the U.S. Department of Labor.

Thanks to the support of our devoted donors, mentors, and volunteers, The Center Foundation has helped over 1,600 low-income women, teens, and families make significant strides towards self-sufficiency and well-being through a strong evidence-based model of mentoring, education, and support. The need for mentoring in our area is just as great now as it was 25 years ago. We have increasingly served more and more clients and their families, especially the immigrant population in the last two decades. Without economic independence, women have no independence at all.

I am confident Kim's blended background in finance, nonprofit, and social work will bring new perspectives to help lead our organization into the future. Earning three brokerage licenses, she honed her leadership and management skills early in her career working in the financial sector for Merrill Lynch and UBS. Heeding the call to service, her nonprofit journey began working for the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) in communications, as well as serving as its Director of Young Professionals and Main Non-Governmental Organization Representative to the United Nations. Joining the Eastern PA Chapter of JDRF as a Development Manager, she was honored with a SPOT Award for work performance overseeing the fundraising efforts for the two largest walkathons in Philadelphia and Bucks County, which raised \$2.61 million for type 1 diabetes research.

Hired by The Center Foundation to oversee our teen programs, Kim's initiative

and capabilities quickly advanced her to the position of Associate Executive Director and now Executive Director. She holds a B.A. in Business Administration from Franklin & Marshall College and a Master of Social Service from Bryn Mawr College. Dedicated to The Center Foundation for a decade, Jane D. Todd will continue in her current role as Program Director.

Please join me in welcoming Kim to her new role, and we look forward to your continued support as we move ahead to infuse our organization with new leadership, opportunity, and energy for growth.

Sincerely,

Susan K. Garrison, Esq.

THE CENTER FOUNDATION
thecenterfoundation.org

