For Immediate Release

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Photos available upon request.

Longtime Housing Partnership Executive Director to Step Down

It is with both sadness and gratitude that The Housing Partnership Board of Trustees announces that Jessica Padilla-Gonzalez will be stepping down as the organization's Executive Director to begin a new journey as Chief Executive Officer at CUMAC, a foodbank, resource center, and advocacy group in Paterson, NJ.

Jessica joined The Housing Partnership as an Assistant Counselor in 2006 and was promoted to Executive Director in 2013. In those 17 years, she led the Partnership to great growth in both reach and in the breadth of services offered. Jessica helped to form important, new strategic relationships with community partners and helped improve and stabilize operations and organizational processes, among many other accomplishments.

She leaves The Housing Partnership in a very strong position for continued growth, and the Board sincerely thanks her for her contribution and leadership in her time with the organization. Board Chair Amanda Parker summed it up best when she said, "While this is a tremendous change for the organization, our loss is certainly CUMAC's gain! On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Housing Partnership, we are elated for Jessica and this opportunity to continue growing her career and expanding her reach to serve more deserving New Jersey families."

The Board of Trustees of the Housing Partnership has a comprehensive succession plan in place to ensure a smooth transition of leadership over the next several months. They are confident that together with Jessica and the dedicated staff, this will be a smooth transition for our clients, partners, and community.

If you have any questions about the transition or the organization, you can contact The Housing Partnership's Board Chair, Amanda Parker, directly by email at: <u>boardchair@hpnj.us</u>.

About The Housing Partnership

Since 1992, the Housing Partnership, located in Dover, New Jersey, has been the resource for homebuyer education and programs throughout Northern NJ. They have changed lives and communities through education, free counseling services, and special financial programs. Their workshops and one-on-one counseling, offered in both English and Spanish, have been the first step for over 1,000 families in their homeownership journeys and they've helped many more through their affordable housing, down payment assistance, and foreclosure prevention programs.