



Growing Home Names Danielle K. Perry, Esq. as New Executive Director

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CHICAGO—The Board of Directors at Growing Home, Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of Danielle K. Perry, Esq. as the new Executive Director. Danielle is the former Director of Communications and Outreach for the City of Chicago's Office of Inspector General. She was responsible for engaging communities around the City about police accountability and government efficiency through strategic partnerships and public engagement.

Prior to the Inspector General's office, Danielle served as Special Advisor in the Obama Administration in the United States Department of Agriculture's Office of Civil Rights where she led a Community and School Garden Initiative working in food insecure communities around the country, including Englewood. Danielle received a Bachelor of Arts and law degree from Howard University in Washington, DC.

Barbara Wallace, Search Committee Co-chair along with Jennifer Ballard-Croft, stated: "Danielle brings a passion for community building and innovative ideas gathered from her work here in Chicago, the Englewood community and Washington DC that will lend itself to building long-term program sustainability and growth for Growing Home. We are excited to have her on board."

Danielle looks forward to her new position and stated: "I am very honored to work in partnership with the Board of Directors and committed staff at Growing Home to lead this critical organization as we work to increase our presence and programs in Englewood."

Danielle will follow Harry Rhodes, the founding Executive Director, who stepped down at the end of 2018 after 17 years with the organization. Danielle started on March 25th and will be formally introduced at the organization's gala event on May 2nd followed by a community-wide reception in June.

The Board of Directors is especially thankful to April Harrington, Chief Operating Officer, who served as Interim Executive Director. April's leadership during the transition and the staff's hard work greatly contributed to the continued success of the organization.

About Growing Home

Growing Home is Chicago's leading expert in farm-based training for people with employment barriers. Our comprehensive program offers trainees relevant, transferable job skills in addition to resources to conquer issues like criminal records, medical needs, child-care, and housing. Growing Home also strives to be a good partner with our Englewood neighbors, providing low-cost fresh produce, nutrition classes, community workshops and an interactive learning garden for school-aged children and families. All of our programs seek to support economic opportunity, healthy living and community empowerment. For more information about Growing Home, click <u>here</u>.

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