

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### NEW LEADERS PREPARE TO TACKLE HUNGER AND POVERTY IN CHICAGO SUBURBS

NAPERVILLE, IL, August 4, 2015 – As it embarks on a new fiscal year, Loaves & Fishes Community Services has welcomed new leaders who will continue to carry on the mission and vision of alleviating hunger and bettering the lives of those in the DuPage County area. The new staff and board members are crucial to shaping the organization and determining how to better serve the community.

Mike Havala, President and Founder of GoldTree Capital Advisors, has been appointed as Loaves & Fishes' Board Chair. Havala has been a strong supporter of Loaves & Fishes for many years. Notably, he helped the organization to secure the purchase of 1871 High Grove Lane in 2011, which allowed Loaves & Fishes dramatically expand over the past 4 years.

Joining Havala is Dr. Alicia McCareins, Founder & CEO of Research, Evaluation & Consulting Associates, LLC, who will serve as Vice Chair of Governance; Paul Novotny, retired former Chairman & CEO of The New York Blower Company, who will serve as Vice Chair of Finance; David Brown, Vice President of Commodity Price & Risk Management at Mondelez International, who will serve as Vice Chair of Advancement; Kevin O'Hara, Private Wealth Advisor-Business Financial Advisor at Ameriprise Financial, who will serve as Treasurer; and Celeste Wagner, owner of C.SAW Marketing Group and owner of Aurelio's Pizza locations in Naperville and Woodridge, who will serve as Secretary.

Loaves & Fishes' also welcomes new board members George Kestler, retired former President & CEO at Americall Group, Inc.; Corey Schmidt, Wealth Advisor at Thrivent Financial; Laura Ann Spencer, Executive Vice President at Perma-Seal; and Kathy Van Eeuwen, Attorney.

"I am extremely excited for what lies ahead for Loaves & Fishes," said Loaves & Fishes' President & CEO Megan Selck. "We have seen so much progress over the past year through our programs and community partnerships. By adding more depth to our board and staff, we have the talent and capacity to continue our forward momentum."

Adding to the board's expansion and growth, Loaves & Fishes recently hired LaVerne Mathews as Director of Advancement. Mathews has successfully secured financial support for multiple Chicago non-profit organizations for more than 15 years. Her previous experiences include holding fund development positions for La Rabida Children's Hospital, Holy Trinity High School, Family Christian Health Center and Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago.

"I love the focus and message of Loaves and Fishes' mission, 'to end hunger in our community,'" explains Mathews when asked what drew her to Loaves & Fishes. "I look forward to working with area businesses, community partners and individuals to help move closer to this goal."

Located at 1871 High Grove Lane in Naperville, Loaves & Fishes Community Services provides groceries and essential supportive services to more than 2,800 suburban Chicago families each month. Its multi-faceted Client Engagement model combines programs such as job search support, food assistance, skill-based classes and public benefit assistance, to both assist and empower clients to achieve self-sufficiency. To learn more about making a donation, volunteering or getting help, visit <http://www.loaves-fishes.org>.

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