

For Immediate Release

OUR PIECE OF THE PIE ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP

Enid Mercedes Rey Named CEO After National Search

HARTFORD – August 2, 2017 – Our Piece of the Pie (OPP), the Hartford-based youth service organization that has become a national model for helping young people become successful, economically independent adults, has announced the selection of Enid Mercedes Rey as its new CEO. Rey will replace Bob Rath, who is retiring after 23 years.

“We are so excited to welcome Enid Rey as OPP’s new CEO,” said Board Chair Jordan Coe. “Enid has a wealth of youth development, education and nonprofit experience and a passionate commitment to our community and our youth. With the support of an experienced management team and an engaged and committed Board, OPP will continue to thrive and grow under her leadership.”

A lawyer by training, Rey is known both locally and nationally for her work in the fields of positive youth development, education, civic leadership, community-building and integration. Most recently, Rey led Hartford Public Schools’ School Choice Office since 2011. Prior to that role, she was the Director of the City of Hartford’s Office for Youth Services, Vice President at the Village for Families and Children, and Program Officer at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, where she was instrumental in the founding of the first Latino Endowment Fund. A graduate of Hartford Public High School, Rey earned her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and her law degree from UCONN School of Law. Among other affiliations, Rey serves on the Board of Magnet Schools of America and is an Annie E. Casey Foundation Children Youth and Families Fellow.

“I am honored to be selected to lead this extraordinary organization,” said Rey. “OPP’s youth-first philosophy, innovative approaches, and impressive results place it among the top youth service organizations in the country. I look forward to building on OPP’s successful track record and leading the organization to serve more youth by scaling its result for greater impact and success for the youth of our community in the years to come.”

Following Rath's retirement announcement in January 2017, OPP’s Board appointed a six-person search committee. Working with John Madigan of Executive Talent Services, LLC, the committee received applications from across the country and interviewed a number of excellent candidates. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Rey. Her official start date is August 15, 2017.

Founded in 1975, Our Piece of the Pie (OPP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping 14 to 24 year-old urban youth become economically independent adults. OPP helps youth in Central and Eastern Connecticut overcome obstacles to success with a unique process – now considered a national model – centered around a personal and consistent relationship developed between each youth and a caring, committed adult staff member. That relationship helps youth identify and overcome barriers, access support services, and achieve the goals of high school graduation, a college degree and/or vocational certification, and rewarding post-education employment. Delivering services in both high schools and the community, OPP provided programs to 1,600 young people throughout Connecticut last year. For more information, please visit www.OPP.org.

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