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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# The Governor's Prevention Partnership Announces Five New Elections to Board of Directors

WETHERSFIELD (7/9/2020) - The Governor's Prevention Partnership is pleased to announce five new members were elected to its Board of Directors. Ryan McEleney, SVP, Director of HR Analytics & Technology at Webster Bank, Andrea Williams, Executive Director of Connectikids Inc., Lakisha Jordan, Corporate Responsibility Officer at KeyBank, Brendan McCarthy, Advisory Senior Manager at blumshaprio, and Sindhu Natarajan, President of Fidelux have each been elected as Directors serving a two-year term.

"We are thrilled to have these talented leaders in their respective industries join our Board of Directors," said Kelly Juleson-Scopino, Co-President of The Governor's Prevention Partnership. "Their skills, experiences, and perspectives will help our organization innovate and evolve as we continue our mission to keep Connecticut's young people safe from drugs, alcohol, and violence."

# About Ryan McEleney

As SVP, Director of HR Analytics & Technology, Ryan McEleney is leading the people analytics buildout at Webster Bank. He is also responsible for HR operations and communications in his position. Ryan has been with the Waterbury-based regional bank in several roles since 2002. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and a SHRM Senior Certified Professional.

"As a member of Webster's in-school mentoring committee, I have been able to see first-hand the impact of the Governor's Prevention Partnership. The mission of the GPP aligns with my own service passion and makes this a perfect fit for me. I am so grateful to be able to join a great team of leaders working to promote positive outcomes for the youth of Connecticut."

## About Andrea Williams

Andrea has been the Executive Director of ConnectiKids since 2017 and has been with the Hartford-based organization since 2007. Prior to 2007, she was an Account Executive at Data-Mail Inc. Andrea received her Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations/Communications from The University of Hartford in 2005, and her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from American College of Education in 2018.

"The Governors Prevention Partnership has made a real difference in the lives of children. The success of our youth is a collective effort, and I am honored to be a board member as I am passionate about education, mentoring, and, most importantly,

the support and advancement of children and families through community collaboration."

## About LaKisha Jordan

LaKisha Jordan serves as the Corporate Responsibility Officer for KeyBank's Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Hudson Valley markets where she oversees a broad community engagement strategy. She joined KeyBank in 2016. Prior to that, she spent nine years at Bank of America in various roles. LaKisha holds a Master's in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science from Southern Connecticut State University with concentrations in psychology, sociology, and public health. She received those degrees in 2004 and 2006 respectively.

"I am pleased to join the board of Governors Prevention Partnership. I am believer that mentoring can change the trajectory of a person's life -especially our youth. Throughout my life I've had mentors that have supported and guided me during various opportunities, many of which have been life changing. It is imperative that our young people have caring mentors and access to opportunities as they grow into the future leaders of our communities."

# About Brendan McCarthy

Brendan is an Advisory Senior Manager at blumshaprio, the largest regional accounting and consulting firm based in New England. He has been with the firm since November of 2019. Prior to that, Brendan worked in similar roles for Deloitte & Touche LLP, and Prudential Financial. Brendan received two degrees from the University of Connecticut – a Bachelor of Science with a major in Accounting in 2009, and a Master of Science in Accounting in 2010.

"Given the incredible change our community is experiencing related to the global pandemic and other factors, it's more critical than ever that Connecticut provide our youth with the safe, supportive environments that will be the foundations for their future success. I'm excited to join the board of the Governor's Prevention Partnership and have an opportunity to work alongside the talented staff and other directors to advance this important cause."

#### About Sindhu Natarajan.

Sindhu is currently the President of Fidelux Lighting, an LED lighting manufacturer based in Rocky Hill, CT. She has been the President of Fidelux since 2017, when the company rebranded from UIC Energy, also an LED lighting manufacturer. Prior to the rebrand to Fidelux, Sindhu was the Director of Operations and Procurement for UIC Energy. She was also the Director of Business Development for Prime AE Group, an engineering firm. In 2003, Sindhu obtained her Bachelor of Sciences in Engineering from Visvesvaraya Technological University in India. Sindhu proceeded to complete her Master of Sciences for Environmental Engineering in 2006 from The University of New Haven.

"I couldn't be more thrilled to join the board for such a great cause. Children are the future of our country and any way we can collaboratively make a difference is what matters most. When we have the opportunity to support and uplift our youth, we need to show our guidance by leading and teaching by example every chance we get.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others"

The Governor's Prevention Partnership is a statewide nonprofit organization that equips, empowers, and connects organizations, communities, and families, to prevent substance abuse, underage drinking, and violence among youth, and promotes positive outcomes for all young people in Connecticut. Created in 1989, the Partnership is a partnership between government and business leaders. Learn more at http://www.PreventionWorksCT.org.