



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**New Executive Director for Community Corporation of Santa Monica**

Community Corporation of Santa Monica, a Santa Monica-based non-profit organization that restores, builds, and manages affordable housing for working families of modest means, announces the appointment of its new Executive Director, Tara Barauskas. Ms. Barauskas will start on August 22.

Ms. Barauskas comes to Community Corp from her former positions as Director of Housing for A Community of Friends and Senior Project Manager with Highridge Costa Housing Partners (formerly Simpson Housing) where she has developed permanent supportive housing for people who are homeless and mentally ill as well as affordable housing for families, seniors and farmworkers.

Ms. Barauskas received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from California State University, Long Beach (cum laude). She holds LEED Accredited Professional (AP) accreditation with a Homes specialty and an International Living Future Institute Living Future Accreditation (LFA). She recently served on the Board of a Los Angeles public charter school. She currently serves on the SCANPH Policy Committee and is a member of the International Living Future Institute's California Congress, a sustainability advocacy coalition.

“Being invited to join Community Corp is an honor that I see as a wonderful opportunity. We will continue to support the community, ensuring a diverse and inclusive population by providing housing that low income working families can afford,” said Ms. Barauskas. She also explained that her personal passion for environmental sustainability, as evidenced in helping A Community of Friends develop LEED Platinum affordable housing and in incorporating strategies for greywater reuse and Net Zero Energy, is a key element to the direction she will provide to Community Corp's current housing and to future developments.

Board Chair Patricia Hoffman welcomed Ms. Barauskas, citing her enthusiasm, commitment and her experience. Tara gets high marks for community involvement through her membership on the SCANPH Policy Committee and in the International Living Future Institute's California Congress, a sustainability advocacy coalition. “In the last 25 years, Community Corp has had two great Executive Directors, Joan Ling and Sarah Letts, both of whom provided excellent direction in establishing Santa Monica as a compassionate community where people can thrive. Tara will continue this proud tradition as we change thousands of lives, making our city more inclusive, caring, and environmentally sustainable,” Patricia announced.

**About Community Corp.:** Community Corporation of Santa Monica, (“Community Corp”) is a non-profit organization that restores, builds, and manages affordable housing for people of modest means. Founded by community leaders in 1982, Community Corp has pioneered the development of architecturally significant and environmentally sustainable affordable housing. It has built or restored more than 80 properties throughout Santa Monica, creating over 1,700 affordable homes and transforming the lives of more than 4,000 people every year. Our work contributes to the distinct character of Santa Monica. For more information, please visit our website at [www.communitycorp.org](http://www.communitycorp.org).