Valerie Stone Hawthorne Joins the Board of Community Council
Community Advocate and Lobbyist Will Advise Community Council of Greater Dallas

DALLAS (July 23, 2019) – The Community Council of Greater Dallas is pleased to announce that Valerie Stone Hawthorne, Ph.D. has joined the board of directors.

Hawthorne’s background is extensive and successful in building, developing and fighting for important interventions that help to transform underserved communities. Toward this end, she’s been an advocate and lobbyist addressing initiatives regarding subjects including nutrition, health care and poverty.

“The board of directors is delighted to welcome Valerie as she understands what it means to advocate and support local initiatives to build a better community,” said Board Chair Peter Wahl. “Her knowledge, along with her dedication to giving back, are qualities we’re excited about. We know that her point of view is valued and will go a long way to benefit the future work of Community Council of Greater Dallas.”

A classically trained scientist, Hawthorne received her bachelor’s degree in genetics and biochemistry at Texas A&M University and was awarded her Ph.D. in cancer biology and cell biology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Hawthorne’s work around the globe landed her a public policy position with Susan G. Komen advocating for Medicaid expansion and universal health care coverage. After recognizing the overlap of cancer with nutrition, health and the population of people in need, Hawthorne made the transition to hunger policy. She served as the government relations officer at the Houston Food Bank before bringing her talents to Dallas in the same role at the North Texas Food Bank in 2017.

“Working toward better policies and addressing the concerns of everyday citizens with the knowledge and experience I've obtained throughout my career has been an important part of why I do what I do,” said Hawthorne. “To know that I can make a difference through social programs and fighting for those who don’t have a voice has been an incredible opportunity, and I’m very proud to join the Community Council board to continue my efforts to support families who benefit from their programs.”

Hawthorne joins the impressive board of directors for Community Council of Greater Dallas, whose members also include Peter Wahl, John Cuellar, Sylvia Garza, Cynthia Salinas-Dooley, Myron Watkins, Barbara Glass, Raul Reyes Jr. and Veronica Shanklin.

Focusing on social programs that support families in poverty by connecting them with partners, programs and resources in North Texas, the Community Council of Greater Dallas uplifts the community and assists over 500,000 individuals annually. The organization is supported by both public and private funders, and keeps its focus on poverty alleviation, workforce mobilization, and community health and wellness.

About Community Council
The Community Council of Greater Dallas was founded in 1940 and currently offers a wide variety of programs and services for seniors, working families and high-risk youth; health care enrollment and health education; and the Skill QUEST workforce development program. The agency also hosts the 2-1-1 Information and Referral Call Center that answers 350,000 calls annually. In 2017, the Council was awarded the Community Services Block Grant by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to help alleviate poverty in Dallas County.

To learn more about the Community Council of Greater Dallas, their programs and resources, visit www.ccadvance.org and www.skillquestcareers.org and follow them on Facebook.
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