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PRESS RELEASE

Waste Not Want Not Hires New Leader

JACKSONVILLE - *Waste Not Want Not* - a leader in food rescue and alleviating hunger in Northeast Florida - announced today that it has hired a new Executive Director, Dr. Kathleen N. Spears. Dr. Spears will join the organization on September 3, 2024, following the retirement of long-time Executive Director, Sandra L. Staudt-Killea. Staudt-Killea began as volunteer in 2003, incorporated the group as 501(c)(3) charity in 2004, and has been instrumental in its growth and sustainability ever since. "Having worked with thousands of compassionate and dedicated *Waste Not* volunteers over the past 20 years, I know Dr. Spears will be joining a great team and look forward to her leading *Waste Not's* future successes," said Staudt-Killea, who will assist with the transition until December.

Spears, who earned both a Master's of Healthcare Administration and PhD in Community Health from Texas Woman's University, joins the agency after having served as a marketing and sales leader with Walmart Health and Humana. Prior to her time in corporate healthcare, Spears led multiple non-profit organizations in both full-time and consulting roles. According to *Waste Not's* board chairman, Rick Hood, "The board was committed to finding the very best person to continue *Waste Not's* mission, and an extensive search was conducted assessing many applicants over several months. Kathleen brings a wealth of knowledge and host of skills that will allow her to build upon Sandra's past successes and take the organization to new heights," said Hood. Regarding being selected to join the organization, Spears said, "It is such an exciting time to lead *Waste Not* as we celebrate our 35th year of rescuing food that would otherwise go to waste and getting it onto plates in our community."

The *Waste Not* board of directors will host a celebration in December welcoming Spears and acknowledging Staudt-Killea's 21-year commitment to the organization. "We owe a debt of gratitude to Sandra for her passion for the mission and commitment to excellence over the years. We are excited about Kathleen taking the lead at *Waste Not* and the innovations she will bring," said Hood.

About Waste Not Want Not

Waste Not Want Not is dedicated to alleviating hunger in North Florida by preventing food waste. We are not a food bank; we do not purchase food. Rather we are a food rescue; we connect the dots between surplus food and hungry people. We work with

hundreds of passionate volunteers, committed food donors, and numerous charitable organizations in 14 counties to rescue and share food with those in need. Every week, more than 15,000 people eat food provided by *Waste Not* - food that, but for the efforts of our volunteers, would be wasted.

For additional information, to volunteer, or to donate, visit: www.wastenotflorida.org.

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