

PRESS RELEASE

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Leadership Changes at Innovative Services NW



Dena Strong, President & CEO



Launda Carroll, CEO Emeritus



Melissa Jaacks, VP of Operations

Vancouver, WA - Please join us in congratulating Dena Strong, our former VP of Client Services, for her promotion to Innovative's new President & CEO, effective January 1, 2018. Innovative's Board of Directors unanimously selected Dena, with her experience in business strategy, executive management, and organizational leadership and efficiencies to lead this 54 year old nonprofit into the future. Dena will be replacing Launda Carroll, now CEO Emeritus, who will be retiring after more than 33 years with the organization. Launda will continue to be available to assist with the leadership transition and other assigned projects until her retirement, June 30, 2018.

We would also like to welcome Melissa Jaacks, joining Innovative as our new VP of Operations. A Washington native, Melissa began her career at Microsoft, administering the supplemental employee benefits and giving programs and then working in several marketing positions. Upon moving to Portland, Melissa worked for branding and advertising agencies for the last 13 years and held the positions of Director and VP of Operations. Melissa is thrilled to join the team at Innovative and shift her focus to mission-driven work.

Bobbi Heitschmidt, Innovative Service NW Board Co-Chair shared, *"Innovative's board has full confidence in our new leadership. We know their skills and experience will help us continue to provide high quality services to the community and expand the number of lives our organization impacts every day!"*

Innovative Services NW is a Vancouver-based nonprofit whose mission is Creating opportunities. Achieving results. Changing lives! Innovative offers a continuum of services including early learning, child care, and pediatric therapy for children; employment training and job support adults with disabilities or disadvantages; and intervention, education and support for foster youth and families.

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