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NEWS RELEASE

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Kristine Martin to Join Amherst H. Wilder Foundation Will be Vice President, Wilder Center for Communities

The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation is pleased to announce that Kristine Martin will join the organization on August 8 as Vice President, Wilder Center for Communities. Reporting to Wilder Foundation President and CEO MayKao Y. Hang, Kristine will oversee Public Policy, Community Engagement and Initiatives, Leadership Programs, and Communications and serve on the foundation's leadership team. "Kristine is a values oriented leader who cares deeply about low income communities, diversity, and responsible leadership," says MayKao.

The Wilder Foundation is a not for profit health and human services agency that serves low income, disadvantaged, and at risk children, families, and elderly through more than 40 direct service programs, community development, and research. Since 1906, the Wilder Foundation's mission is to promote the social welfare of the residents of the East metro. The Wilder Center for Communities is the Wilder Foundation's integrated approach to fostering leadership, learning, and service that strengthens individuals and communities. Kristine will head Wilder's Neighborhood Leadership Program, Youth Leadership Initiative, the James P. Shannon Leadership Institute for professional development, volunteer opportunities, community initiatives, and the Wilder Center convening space. Kristine will be replacing Ronnie Brooks, who will continue to work with the Shannon Institute and selected Wilder Foundation community initiatives on a part-time basis.

Kristine brings two decades of senior management experience to the Wilder Foundation. For the past five years she has served as the director of the Department of Research, Planning and Development for Hennepin County. In her role there, she directed county wide initiatives and cross department projects including efforts to reduce intergenerational poverty, improvements in aging services, and developing ways to improve the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. She held a leadership role with Northside Funders Group and brings cross sector experience in nonprofit work. Kristine previously held various roles at Hennepin County including Human Services and Public Health Area Manager, Community Services Manager, and Clinical Supervisor at the Department of Community Corrections.

She holds a dual bachelor's degree in social work and Spanish, both from Concordia College and has a Master in Social Work in Human Services Administration from the University of Minnesota where she was also an Education Policy Fellow. She is the recipient of awards from the national Association of Counties, Partners of the Americas, Child Welfare League of America, and the Kellogg Foundation.

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About the Wilder Foundation

For more than 100 years, the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation has combined direct service, research and community development to address the needs of the most vulnerable people in greater Saint Paul. For more information on the Wilder Foundation, visit www.wilder.org