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COMMON HOPE WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Organization to be Led by a Guatemalan Executive Director, First Time in 38 Year History

[St. Paul, MN. April 2024] – Common Hope | Familias de Esperanza, a non-profit organization that promotes hope and opportunity for Guatemalan students and their families, announces the appointment of its new Executive Director, Jocelyn Skolnik. Ms. Skolnik will start later in May.

With this appointment, Skolnik becomes the first Guatemalan to hold this position in the organization's 38-year history. Skolnik brings a multicultural knowledge to Common Hope with experience leading mission-centric organizations both in the United States and Guatemala. With recognition from the White House as a Champion of Change, proven experience in exponential growth in a nonprofit, and a passion for values-driven leadership, Common Hope will continue to blossom with this uniquely experienced leader.

Common Hope is amid implementing its new strategic plan, launched in 2023, with aims to ensure relevance to students, optimize its operating model, and deepen strategic relationships. Under Skolnik's leadership, this strategic plan will flourish with the renewed energy, fresh perspective, and cultural context that she brings to the organization.

Board Chair Mark Ruff welcomed Jocelyn, citing his enthusiasm and confidence for what she will contribute as a leader. "As we approach 40 years of impact, I know that Jocelyn is the right leader to guide Common Hope into the future. Her deep commitment to families and communities, her recent work with public and private funding of technology improvements in schools all across Guatemala, along with her warmth and heart, make her just the right leader for our evolving and dynamic organization."

About the organization: Common Hope promotes hope and opportunity in Guatemala by partnering with children, families and communities who want to participate in a process of development to improve their lives through education, health care, housing, and family development. We lay the foundation for lasting change. The obstacles and struggles families face today will not be the same for the next generation. The organization has supported the graduation of thousands of students in central Guatemala over its 38-year history.

To be notified about upcoming opportunities to engage directly with Jocelyn Skolnik, register at commonhope.org/lunchandlearn