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CARF International Board of Directors elects Donald Dew as Chair

Dew brings decades of experience from distinguished career in behavioral health and employment and community services

January 20, 2022, Tucson, Arizona — The CARF International Board of Directors elected Donald Dew as Board Chair. His one-year term began on January 1, 2022. Dew has been involved with CARF governance previously, having been elected an At-Large Trustee and serving from 1995 until 2000, and then being elected as a Board Member in August 2015.

Dew became involved with CARF in 1989 when he was appointed as acting director of [Habilitative Systems, Inc.](#), located in Chicago, Illinois. “We had already gone through a mock survey for CARF accreditation, and I decided to use the CARF standards as a blueprint to help us get through this very challenging executive transition; it was a playbook for me.” Since 1990, Dew’s position has been President and CEO of Habilitative Systems, which provides CARF-accredited behavioral health programs and employment and community services. Dew is also a former CARF surveyor for both accreditation areas.

On his election to Board Chair, Dew said, “I want to add my perspective, specifically around behavioral health and race and health equity issues, to the excellence and competency already at the board level of CARF.” Dew said President/CEO Brian Boon’s vision and leadership, “particularly navigating challenging times, and the combined skill set of my board colleagues make for a very powerful leadership team.”

Dew succeeds Richard Forkosh, who served as Board Chair from 2018 through 2021. Dr. Boon said, “Mr. Dew has a remarkable track record of being an advocate for quality services, such services often critical for those marginalized in our communities. CARF is proud that Mr. Dew’s board leadership role will advance and support CARF’s mission as an accreditor to promote quality services in order to enhance the lives of persons served.”

Dew has a distinguished career in health and human services and recently received the Philanthropic Lifetime Achievement Award from The Executive Service Corps. He was also elected as the 2022 Chair of the West Side Health Equity Collaborative in Illinois; his term will commence in October. His continued advisory roles include Collaborative Bridges, Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, the UIC Department on Disability and Human Development, Black Administrators in Child Welfare, Behavioral Health Consortium of Illinois, and the Illinois Disability Summit. Above all, Dew describes himself as an advocate, his work being centered on healthcare transformation encompassing a number of issues, “finding a way to lift up the most marginalized in our society and give them the opportunity to live a qualitative life...The perspective of inner-city life, urban challenges, and generational trauma, having lived that myself and trying to bring solutions to the table, these kinds of conversations I gladly and willingly bring to the Board level at CARF.”

Serving in diverse health and human services fields, the 11 members of the CARF Board of Directors bring unique and valuable experience to their governance roles. The Board roster for 2022 is:

- Board Chair: Donald J. Dew, M.S.W., ACSW, Chicago, Illinois
- Susanne M. Bruyère, Ph.D., CRC, Ithaca, New York
- Thomas J. Buckley, Ed.D., New York, New York
- Richard Forkosh, Kirkwood, Missouri
- G. Thomas Heath, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Kayda Johnson, Naples, Florida
- Marvin Mashner, CPA, Maple Glen, Pennsylvania
- Paul Prem Nathenson, D.N.P., APRN, NP-C, ND, Oregon City, Oregon
- D. Sharon Osborne, Bainbridge Island, Washington
- Robert H. Short, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Herb Zaretsky, Ph.D., New York, New York

About CARF International

Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human service providers in the areas of aging services; behavioral health; child and youth services; durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies; employment and community services; medical rehabilitation; and opioid treatment programs. The CARF International group of organizations includes CARF, CARF Canada, and CARF Europe and accredits more than 60,000 programs on five continents. More than 15.3 million persons of all ages are served annually by CARF-accredited providers.

For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF International website at www.carf.org.

CARF International headquarters is located at 6951 East Southpoint Road, Tucson, AZ 85756-9407, toll free (888) 281-6531. CARF has offices in Washington, D.C.; Edmonton, Alberta; and London, U.K.