



For Immediate Release

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ORION COMMUNITIES ANNOUNCES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Keith Wilburn joins Orion's team as Kris Keller Retires

Phoenixville, PA - The Board of Directors at Orion Communities is pleased to announce that Keith Wilburn will be the new Executive Director effective November 6, 2023. Keith comes to Orion with strong executive leadership experience and passion for the mission of supporting marginalized and at-risk neighbors as they create a healthier and more self-reliant future. Keith joins Orion after working as Executive Director at both Coatesville Kids to College and The Well Community Center in Downingtown.

Orion's current Executive Director, Kris Keller, is retiring. For 10 years, Kris has led Orion Communities first as a volunteer and then as Executive Director. In that time, the organization has grown significantly to address unmet needs that support individuals, families, and our community. Orion has never received government funding to remain flexible in meeting requests for assistance and avoid duplication of services with partners.

"It has been an honor to work with Orion's Clients, Staff, Board, and Volunteers," said Kris Keller. "While difficult to leave so many special people, I am excited to pass the reins of this wonderful organization to Keith to lead into the next chapter."

Orion began in 1977 with a grassroots initiative to support individuals who were differently abled and their families as State Hospitals closed down. The other common denominator of people reaching out to Orion was poverty and so the mission grew to work with under resourced neighbors living with poverty, illness, or disability.

"We think Keith will be a great 'fit' with Orion and our Community," said Board President Ellen Scott. "While we are sad to see Kris off to her well-deserved retirement, we are looking forward to Keith's presence and leadership at Orion. In coordination with the Succession Planning Committee, Keith and Kris are working on a transition plan to ensure continuity of the many facets of Orion's commitment to neighbors helping neighbors. Please help us welcome Keith to our community."

To learn more, please feel free to contact Orion and arrange a visit at 610-415-1140 or go to www.OrionCommunities.org.