



February 2, 2010

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the National Alliance of Community Economic development Associations (NACEDA), I am writing to let you know that Jane de Marines has resigned as NACEDA executive director effective February 16 to pursue other professional opportunities.

After our volunteer driven start-up in 2006, Jane joined us in 2007 and has effectively helped us develop a set of goals and an agenda, secure some initial funding, and build a staff and resource team. These are no small feats in our country's worst recession since the Depression. Please join with us in thanking Jane for her commitment and service to the community economic development field and in wishing her well in her next leadership role. Jane's personal note is attached.

The Board has decided that the officers of NACEDA (see below) will serve as the Transition Committee, joined by Joe McNeely and Patricia Spring from our Board. The Committee has had several meetings to get organized and has taken the following actions:

- 1) Requested and was approved for executive transition financial assistance from the Annie E. Casey Foundation;
- 2) With the Annie E. Casey Foundation funding has retained TransitionGuides, Inc, a leading national specialist in nonprofit leadership transition and succession planning, to assist with the initial transition planning. Tom Adams and Heller An Shapiro are the TransitionGuides team working with NACEDA. Tom has a long track record in community development and leadership transition and Heller An is a former association executive;
- 3) Reassessed with the Board the best timing for the 2010 Summit. The Board is working on rescheduling the Summit for the end of May (May 24-26) to give us time to plan a really exciting event. This will help to ensure a powerful convening of CED experts;
- 4) Begun working with TransitionGuides to bring on an Interim Executive in the next few weeks, and to plan the search for a new permanent Executive Director; and
- 5) Developed an initial transition timeline.

NACEDA's Board and staff are working diligently to ensure that our advocacy plans and our two major projects, Managing Neighborhood Change and Organization Capacity Assessment (OCA), continue to move forward during the transition. We will be releasing our census report on the progress of the CED sector in the near future as well.

TransitionGuides will begin work immediately on an organizational review to inform the priorities of NACEDA and the competencies needed in the next executive.

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Sarah McKinley, our Director of Special Projects, has graciously agreed to serve as Interim Staff Liaison until the Interim Executive is in place. She can be reached at (202) 659-7701 or smckinley@naceda.org.

NACEDA is as strong as our members and our allies and supporters. Thanks for the strength you add by your continued commitment to our work. Please give me or any of the officers a call or drop us an email if you have questions or suggestions as we move forward. Look for more details on the transition and our search for a new executive over the next couple months.

Sincerely,

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