

Hildebrand

Family Self-Help Center, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 13, 2024

Contact: Alyssa Bogosian, Development Manager
abogosian@hild-selfhelp.org, 617-491-5752

CAMBRIDGE, MA – Hildebrand Family Self-Help Center, Inc. (“Hildebrand”) announced today that its Board of Directors has elected its new Chair, Jessica Howe of Cushman & Wakefield; Vice Chair, Michelle Meiser of Eastern Bank; Treasurer, Sarah Holmes of Brown Brothers Harriman; and Clerk, Rev. Dr. Ellis I. Washington of St. Paul AME Church. The organization also added two new members to its Board of Directors; Beverly Coles-Roby of Randolph School Committee, and Ronald Marlow of Action Boston for Community Development (ABCD).

Jessica Howe, Vice President for the Global Practice Groups at Cushman & Wakefield, joined Hildebrand’s Board of Directors in 2022. Ms. Howe brings over 15 years’ experience in the commercial real estate space, managing operational and strategic initiatives. She has been involved in community and national organizations such as GLOW Boston, the Greater Boston Food Bank, and Reclaim Our Vote, and in 2016, she co-founded the Nate Howe Adventure Fund, which provides full scholarships for students in both Boston and Buffalo, NY to participate in the school’s adventure based camp and learning trips. Before being elected Chair, Ms. Howe served as Board Clerk. She is currently involved in Hildebrand’s economic mobility research study as an active member of the study’s working group, which includes clients and staff from across the organization.

Michelle Meiser, Vice President, Community Relations Outreach Officer at Eastern Bank, has served on Hildebrand’s Board since 2020, and preceded Jessica Howe in her former position as Board Clerk. In her role at Eastern Bank, she works to support Massachusetts families with the financing of their first home. Prior to entering the banking industry, Ms. Meiser worked in community development and affordable housing at Allston Brighton CDC, MetroBoston Housing, and Pine Street Inn. She also brings valuable experience as a Selection Committee Member of the Massachusetts Homeownership Collaborative, which aims to improve homebuyer education services across the state.

Sarah Holmes, Global Head of Securities Lending at Brown Brothers Harriman, joined the board in 2022 through the United Way of Massachusetts Bay’s [Board Connection](#) program. She brings nearly 30 years of experience in financial services across client management, product, technology and human resources. As a leader at Brown Brothers Harriman, Ms Holmes is focused on cultivating BBH’s client-focused culture and developing teams that provide personalized, premium service and results that exceed expectations. Sarah is a member of several governance committees including the firm’s Executive Sustainability and Inclusion Councils. She co-founded BBH’s Women in Tech (WIT) and Women in Markets (WIM) communities and is a former co-chair of the Global Women’s Network.

Rev. Dr. Ellis I. Washington serves as the pastor at St. Paul AME Church in Cambridge, where Hildebrand was founded more than three decades ago. Before coming to Cambridge, Rev. Dr. Washington provided dynamic leadership to several AME churches throughout Georgia, in Philadelphia, and at Grant AME Church in Boston. He has served as President of Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity, and is a

Hildebrand

Family Self-Help Center, Inc.

member of Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, and Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. Rev. Dr. Washington holds a Doctor of Ministry from Payne Theological Seminary and a Master of Divinity degree from Turner Seminary at the Interdenominational Theological Center. He attended Morehouse College and graduated from Columbus State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice.

Beverly Coles-Roby is a children's rights activist who was elected to the Randolph School Committee in November 2023. She is an attorney who began her career as an associate with Budd, Wiley & Richlin P.C. She went on to work for the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office; Department of Children and Families; and the Department of Environmental Protection. Most recently, Ms. Coles-Roby served as Executive Director of the Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals. She is also a former Dean of Students at Suffolk University Law School, her alma mater. Before attending law school, Ms. Coles-Roby was an English teacher with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. She is a member of St. Paul AME Church.

Ronald Marlow is the Vice President, Workforce Development & Alternative Education at Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD). In this role, Ron oversees the development and delivery of workforce development and supportive services programs targeted to adults, young adults and youth; English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL); two alternative education high schools ABCD operates in partnership with the Boston Public Schools; the MassHire Metro North Career Centers system; and the MassHire Boston ABCD Career Center system. Prior to joining ABCD, Mr. Marlow served as Vice President of Workforce Development for the National Urban League, Undersecretary for Workforce Development in the Massachusetts' Executive Office of Labor and the Workforce Development, and as Assistant Secretary for Access and Opportunity in the Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

"Hildebrand's new Board leaders and members bring valuable experience, skills, and dedication that will help drive Hildebrand's growth and impact," said Shiela Y. Moore, CEO of Hildebrand. "I am excited to work with Jessica, Michelle, Sarah, Beverly, Ron, and the entire Hildebrand Board as we lead Hildebrand into its next chapter."

"I am honored to be elected Hildebrand's next Board Chair," Jessica Howe, Board Chair, said today. "I am deeply committed to Hildebrand's mission and energized by its vision that every family has a home. I look forward to engaging Hildebrand's strong community of partners, supporters, staff, board members, families, and friends as we take on new challenges and forge new paths together. "

Hildebrand Family Self-Help Center, Inc. is a nonprofit organization with a mission to transition families out of homelessness to safe, affordable, permanent housing while working to disrupt systems that lead to poverty and homelessness. Its vision is that every family has a home. Hildebrand operates emergency shelter, permanent housing, and a continuum of support for families experiencing homelessness that includes comprehensive case management and stabilization services. To learn more about Hildebrand, visit hild-selfhelp.org.