

PRESS RELEASE
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The Mockingbird Society Appoints New Executive Director Natalie Lente

SEATTLE – The Mockingbird Society Board of Directors has officially named Natalie Lente the new Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society. Natalie will step into her role as Executive Director on Monday, November 28.

As a nonprofit executive with rich experience in both Washington state community agencies and local government, Natalie's expertise and leadership will advance The Mockingbird Society's mission of transforming the foster care system and ending youth homelessness. Natalie's passion for centering the voices of youth with lived experience of foster care and/or youth homelessness aligns with the heart of Mockingbird's work. "We are so excited to have Natalie be the shepherd for this next season in the Mockingbird Society's history." said Tasha West-Baker, Board Chair.

Most recently, Natalie served as the Chief External Affairs Officer at Child Care Resources, leading the agency's policy/advocacy, fundraising, public partnerships, and communications work. She was formerly the Health Services Administrator for the Health Care for the Homeless Network at Public Health – Seattle & King County.

Natalie has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Oregon and began her career delivering direct services to chronically mentally ill adults and their families. She has a Masters' degree in business with a focus on organizational development and is experienced in improving service systems for multiple agencies and programs.

She is passionate about racial and social justice, trauma informed care, equitable approaches to social-emotional and academic learning and recent brain science discoveries on stress and resiliency. As an activist, Natalie is committed to disrupting increasingly untenable social systems. She has assisted in the development of legislative recommendations and resolutions intended to improve access to services for the most marginalized residents in the state.

Natalie succeeds Interim Executive Director Peter Bloch Garcia, who assumed the role in 2021.

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About The Mockingbird Society

The Mockingbird Society's mission is to transform foster care and end youth homelessness. For over 20 years, Mockingbird has created, supported, and advocated for racially equitable, healthy environments that develop and empower young people who have experienced—or are experiencing—foster care or homelessness. Working in partnership with young people with lived experience, Mockingbird changes policies and perceptions standing between every child and having a safe, supportive and stable home. Mockingbird envisions each young person, regardless of race or individual experience, reaching adulthood with an equitable opportunity to thrive.