

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Center for Working Families, Inc. Appoints Four New Members to its Board of Directors

Atlanta, GA (August 2015) - The Center for Working Families, Inc. (TCFWI) is proud to announce the appointment of four new members to serve on the board of directors, bringing its membership to 15. The expansion supports a key organizational goal for 2015 as the workforce development agency begins implementation of its 2015-2020 strategic plan. The three year terms were effective immediately on August 1, 2015.

The newly appointed members include:

Stuart Andreason, Senior Community and Economic Development Advisor (Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta); **Jen Bennecke**, President (Jenson Strategic Partners); **Ashley C. Carson**, Senior Vice President - Corporate Banking (Atlantic Capital Bank) and **Helen N. Parker**, Retired Regional Administrator, Atlanta Region (U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration).

"We are excited about these great leaders deciding to lend their talents to support TCFWI. This is a critical time for the Center as we work to operationalize our 2020 strategic plan. Jen, Ashley, Helen and Stuart each brings a unique perspective and set of skills that will be instrumental in galvanizing a broader cross-section of the community as we move the ball forward to serve more families," said Che D. Watkins, President & CEO. TCFWI Chairman of the Board of Directors, Talley C. Wells added, "We couldn't be happier with their appointments, and look forward to building on the strengths of our existing board, staff and stakeholders to further elevate the organization."

Stuart Andreason is the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's liaison specializing in human capital and workforce development. His major fields of study are workforce, human capital, and economic development policy, with a specialization in labor market and socioeconomic conditions in metropolitan areas. Prior to joining the Atlanta Fed, Andreason was a research associate at the Penn Institute for Urban Research at the University of Pennsylvania (PennIUR). There, he helped develop a set of indicators of livable and sustainable communities for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funded by the Ford Foundation.

Jen Bennecke is the President of Jensen Strategic Partners, a community and public affairs consulting firm. She is the immediate past president of the Junior League of Atlanta (2014-2015), and in 2014 was recognized as "Philanthropic Leader of Tomorrow" by the Greater Atlanta Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Bennecke is a dedicated community leader and diligent volunteer, sitting on various nonprofit boards including the Atlanta Children's Shelter, Foster Care Support Foundation as well as the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta Community Partnership Committee. She also founded a task force that became the nation's first statewide collaborative to address the commercial exploitation of children; through her philanthropic efforts she has raised

millions for local non-profits, managed thousands of volunteers and served more than 100,000 women and children.

Ashley C. Carson is responsible for managing and expanding Atlanta's Capital Bank's non-profit and emerging growth portfolio. An active member of the business and civic community, Ms. Carson has been a member of the Midtown Atlanta Rotary for 10 years and has sat on the Board for 6 of those years in leadership positions. She is an alumnus of the Georgia 100/Achieva Program, the Coca Cola Diversity Leadership Program and the Sotheby's Decorative Arts Course in New York.

Helen N. Parker is a nationally recognized consultant in workforce development. As a member of the federal Senior Executive Service, she oversaw approximately \$2.5 billion in federal grant resources to state and local grantees. She provided leadership and direction to the workforce system in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Prior to her federal service, she spent almost 28 years with the Georgia Department of Labor.

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About The Center for Working Families

The mission of The Center for Working Families, Inc. (TCWFI) is to ensure economic success for hard-working families and their children through workforce development, economic supports and asset building. Launched in 2006 with support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, TCWFI provides a holistic bundle of services including soft and hard skills training, workforce development, housing counseling, legal advocacy, microenterprise training and financial literacy and asset building programs designed to meet the needs of families living in Atlanta and the Mechanicsville, Summer Hill, Peoplestown, Pittsburgh and Adair Park neighborhoods. TCWFI is recognized nationally as a best practice in two generational change and collective impact through workforce development.

The Center for Working Families, Inc.

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