

NEWS

VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

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Lynne Algrant Named CEO at Volunteer Center of Bergen County

Hackensack, NJ. Lynne Algrant, of Englewood, has been named Chief Executive Officer at the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, effective April 1, 2015, the Center's Board of Directors announced today. Ms. Algrant will succeed Janet Sharma, who had previously announced that she would retire after leading the organization for 22 years.

"We are thrilled to welcome Lynne Algrant as our next CEO," said David Warshaw, President of the Volunteer Center Board. "Her leadership skills, civic engagement experience and community knowledge are an ideal combination that will help the Volunteer Center build on its already enviable record of achievement."

"The Volunteer Center of Bergen County transforms lives, both those who help and those who are helped," said Lynne Algrant. "I know because it was my guide to learning how I could make a difference here. I am so honored to serve this organization in its next chapter as it continues to strengthen Bergen County."

Ms. Algrant is currently President of the Englewood City Council and has been Leadership Director for the Volunteer Center's Bergen LEADS program since its inception in 2009. She is Principal of H₁₀A Consulting. Ms. Algrant served previously as Program Manager and Leadership Development Director for the Cleveland Foundation and Executive Director of the Albert G. Oliver Program in New York City, which serves the needs of minority, low-income secondary school students attending independent schools.

"Lynne has been a valued colleague and consultant with the Volunteer Center for several years," said Janet Sharma. "I have every confidence that this outstanding organization will continue to flourish under her leadership." After her retirement, Ms. Sharma will continue to lead the Volunteer Center's Hurricane Sandy relief efforts.

The mission of the Volunteer Center is to strengthen the community by connecting people through service and developing civic leaders. Its major programs include Mentoring Moms and Mentoring Youth, in which volunteers are recruited, trained and directed to help overwhelmed mothers and at-risk youth face and overcome challenges; the Chore Service, which enlists volunteers to perform

household repairs that help keep the elderly and people with disabilities safe in their homes; and Bergen LEADS, where, over a 10-month curriculum each year, a cohort of 30 participants expand their knowledge of community issues, further develop their leadership skills and investigate and communicate potential solutions to key areas of community-wide concern.

In addition, the Volunteer Center is the coordinating agency for the Bergen County VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters), a coalition of more than 50 nonprofit and faith-based organizations. As the leader of the VOAD's Hurricane Sandy Long-Term Recovery Committee, the Volunteer Center has coordinated more than 73,000 hours of volunteer time and directed more than \$10 million in assistance to help Bergen County residents affected by the storm.

For more information about the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, please go to www.bergenvolunteers.org.
