

For Immediate Release:

New appointed Board Members join Caritas of Austin

Austin, TX – Caritas of Austin, a leader in ending homelessness in Austin, today announced the appointment of four new members to its Board of Directors: Veronica Blacklock, Tamithia Blackman, Emmy Goss, and Michele Guzmán, effective immediately.

“We are excited to welcome our new board members to Caritas of Austin,” said Jo Kathryn Quinn, President & CEO of Caritas of Austin. “Their wealth of knowledge and passion for making a difference in our community will undoubtedly bring new perspectives and fresh ideas to our board, and we look forward to their collaboration as we continue to drive positive change in Austin.”

Veronica Blacklock; Senior Program Manager - Meta

Veronica is a Senior Program manager in the tech industry with a background in Chemical Engineering. At Meta, Veronica has been instrumental in operationalizing workflows that ensure the safety of Facebook and Instagram for users, businesses, and advertisers. Throughout her time at Meta, Veronica has demonstrated exceptional performance, earning two Global Operations Value awards. In addition to her career, Veronica is also an active member of the Junior League of Austin and Ronald McDonald House.

Tamithia Blackman; Founder/Owner - Nehemiah Christian Preschool

Tamithia (Tami) is a highly accomplished educator and entrepreneur in Austin, Texas. She is the founder and owner of Nehemiah Christian Preschool, overseeing students' instruction on core curriculum and immersive learning opportunities. In addition to her work at NCP, Tami founded the non-profit Nehemiah Unlimited in 2023. She is also a stakeholder and/or member of the National Black Child Development Institute, Texas Rising Star program, NAEYC, The Black Fund, and Black Leaders Collective.

Emmy Goss; Founder/Owner - Lady Emmy Enterprises

Emmy is an accomplished beauty expert with over fifteen years of experience in the beauty industry and in media. Beyond her role as a renowned beauty authority, Emmy is also an entrepreneur and a respected voice in the entertainment and non-profit sectors. She established her company, Lady Emmy Enterprises which includes various endeavors in the beauty industry including on-air TV segments, brand consulting, and speaking at global beauty events. She is passionate about community involvement which has included years of working with organizations to empower women and youth, advocate against violence toward women and children as well as supporting various homeless shelters.

Michele Guzmán, PhD; Owner and Principal - MRG Collaborative Consulting

Michele owns and is the principal of MRG Collaborative Consulting, which provides technical assistance and evaluation services, primarily in diversity, equity, inclusion, strategic grantmaking, and behavioral health, to providers, government agencies, foundations, and other organizations. Michele is a psychologist with 20 years of experience in diversity and equity issues, philanthropy, and behavioral health policy and services. She has held notable positions throughout her career, including Vice President of Administration for the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute and Assistant Vice President for Diversity Education Initiatives at the University of Texas. In addition to her professional experience, Dr. Guzman has received numerous honors and awards throughout her career (DiversityFIRST Award, Faculty Member of the Year, etc.) and has published research on educational issues and ethnic identity development.

About Caritas of Austin

Caritas of Austin believes that when every person has a stable place to call home, they can realize their full potential and contribute to our community. We build well-being by making sure that people have safe places to live, access to healthy groceries, jobs that provide a reliable living wage, and the opportunity to learn life skills. Together, our professional staff partners with clients to construct a strong foundation and a community of ongoing support so that they can withstand the life storms that affect all of us, such as an unexpected job loss or a family illness. Our innovative, personalized, and proven approach to building well-being creates a more vibrant Austin for all.

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