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June 24, 2021

RE: Announcement of Executive Director Transition

Executive Director

Chauntelle Lieske

Board of Directors

Barry McHugh

Victoria Michael

Rebecca Reeves

Alison Roberts

Chris Shipley

Laura Tenneson

Amy Voeller

Jill Weeks

Sheri Weistaner

Andi West

After years of tireless work to further the mission of Safe Passage in supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence, Chauntelle Lieske announced she is leaving her role as executive director, effective July 14, 2021.

She began her career in DV work, first as an advocate, then moving to program director. She was promoted to the role of executive director of Safe Passage in 2017, when she met this new challenge with determination. Chauntelle has unwaveringly led our organization through her survivor-focused lens, always remembering whom this organization is here to serve.

Under her dedicated leadership, Safe Passage doubled the number of survivors served, simultaneously doubling staff to meet this increased need. She challenged the status quo and retooled existing programs to create new, trauma-informed solutions when she identified unmet community needs, including teen outreach to educate and prevent future violence, transitional housing and access to legal counsel. She has become the face of Safe Passage in our community and has forged deep partnerships with NIC, KH, CDAPD, KCSO and the local school districts, all of which will continue to benefit the community long past her departure.

Chauntelle's passion for this work and steadfast leadership will be greatly missed by the staff, board, partners, sister agencies and community, but she'll continue to advocate for those in need throughout her career. We wish her the greatest success in her future and offer our deepest appreciation for her work.

Over the next several months, the Board will be conducting a search to find Safe Passage's next executive director. It is our priority to find a leader with true passion for our work. In the interim, services will be overseen by the Safe Passage team of directors and the Board.

Cordially,

Rebecca Reeves, Chair
Safe Passage Board of Directors