Connecticut Voices for Children Announces Appointment of Interim Executive Director

Connecticut Voices for Children, a statewide research-based think tank that works on behalf of the state’s children and families, today announced the appointment of Sharon Langer as its Interim Executive Director while the organization recruits a permanent Executive Director. For nearly eight years, Ms. Langer has served as a Senior Policy Fellow at Connecticut Voices.

Ms. Langer will start her work as Interim Executive Director on October 18th. The current executive director, Jamey Bell, has been appointed by Governor Malloy as the state’s Child Advocate and will leave the organization on Wednesday, October 17. The organization will soon launch a search for a permanent director.

“We’re pleased that Sharon has agreed to serve as Interim Executive Director,” said Jean Adnopoz, Chair of Connecticut Voices’ Board of Directors. “Her policy, advocacy, and coalition building experience will be valuable in maintaining the organization’s high-quality and effective work during this period of transition.”

“I’m honored to help Connecticut Voices through this transition period,” said Sharon Langer. “I look forward to building on the organization’s new initiatives, such as our new Fiscal Policy Center, and to continuing our work with partners to improve the lives of the state’s children.”

Ms. Langer’s work at Connecticut Voices has focused on health policy and funding issues, particularly those affecting families and children. She currently coordinates the Covering Connecticut's Kids and Families Coalition, which brings together state officials, community health providers, advocates, and others who seek to help families enroll in HUSKY, the state's publicly funded health insurance program.

She serves on the Consumer Advisory Board for the Office of Health Reform and Innovation. She also serves as the co-chair of the Coordination of Care Committee of the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council, which advises state agencies about mental health and substance abuse services for children and adults in the HUSKY and Charter Oak health insurance programs.

Prior to joining Connecticut Voices in 2004, Ms. Langer served as an attorney at Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS) for 20 years. CLS is an independent, non-profit agency that provides free civil
legal services to low-income individuals and families. Ms. Langer has extensive experience representing and advising low-income individuals and families concerning Medicaid, income supports, unemployment compensation and employment law, as well as in administrative and legislative lobbying on matters affecting low-income citizens of this state. She also has experience as a teacher of young children with disabilities. She received an M.Ed. from Tufts University and a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law.

Connecticut Voices for Children is a research-based think tank that works to advance policies that benefit the state’s children, youth and families (ctvoices.org).

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