



Betsy Brand, Executive Director of AYPF, is Retiring

(Washington, DC) - The Board of Directors of the American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) has announced that Executive Director Betsy Brand will be retiring at the end of 2019. Brand has led the organization for the past 21 years.

AYPF's goal is to improve the lives of traditionally underserved youth, those young people who are low income, involved with the juvenile justice, child welfare, or mental health systems, first generation college goers, those out of school and out of work, youth with disabilities, recent immigrants, homeless youth, and youth of color, through better policies. AYPF shares information with policy leaders so they can learn about the strategies, programs, and evidence that lead to improved outcomes, and AYPF creates nonpartisan, engaging learning opportunities that bridge policy, practice, and research.

Brand joined AYPF in 1998 as Co-Director and was named Executive Director in 2004. She has brought a rare combination of skills to the organization and helped position AYPF as a leading voice in education, youth, and workforce policy.

"Betsy's visionary leadership and commitment to AYPF's mission is reflected in the organization's longstanding, rigorous, and deeply respected and influential work, both in Washington and at the state level," says Lorelle Espinosa, Board Chair.

"I'm proud that our work to educate and inform policymakers has resulted in a deeper understanding of traditionally underserved youth, positive changes in education, youth, and workforce policies, and a growing focus on positive youth development," remarks Brand. She adds, "I'm also proud that AYPF, with our deep content knowledge, nonpartisan approach, and talented and committed staff, has used its voice and weight to push towards a learning system that is youth-centered, provides the wraparound supports needed, and increasingly values the learning that occurs both in- and out-of-school."

The Board of Directors has appointed a search committee of board members to lead the search and transition process. The Board has also retained Marcum LLP to conduct a national search, which will launch in July. Brand will remain with the organization until the new Executive Director assumes the position.

For information about the search, please contact Lauren Weinstein at Lauren.Weinstein@marcumllp.com or Adrienne O'Rourke at Adrienne.ORourke@marcumllp.com.

AYPF's Board of Directors are:

Lorelle Espinosa, Chair, American Council on Education
Lydia Logan, Vice Chair, Digital Promise
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