

NEWS RELEASE

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NEW DIRECTOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES STARTING JULY 1

BELLINGHAM, WA/May 17, 2022 –The Board of Directors and staff are pleased to announce that Adrienne Renz will be joining Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County (DVSAS) as the Executive Director. Ms. Renz most recently served as the General Manager/CEO of the Community Food Co-op here in Whatcom County. She is a skilled manager with experience building mission driven collaborative partnerships around innovative programming. She will begin her work at DVSAS on July 1, 2022.

Colleen Maguire, co-president of the DVSAS Board of Directors, announced the board's decision saying "We're excited to welcome Ms. Renz to our team! She brings a wealth of experience and a strategic mindset to help us propel DVSAS into the future." "The hiring committee did a first-rate job in selecting Ms. Renz," says Keith Wallace, co-president, DVSAS Board of Directors. "She has deep roots in the community and will be an asset to DVSAS."

Adrienne Renz is ready for the opportunity; "Since first serving as a volunteer advocate at the local confidential domestic violence shelter in 1997 I have held a deep respect for DVSAS and the vital role they play in our community. This initial experience started a lifetime passion for building collaborative connections in support of strengthening our community while actively addressing inequities. I am so happy to be serving as the Executive Director of DVSAS and I am honored to join the organization in support of their vision of creating a safe, equitable community, free from the oppressions that lead to gender-based violence and where all individuals feel valued and respected. Deep society-based issues require system wide perspectives and community collaborations that are deeply informed by those impacted. I believe the

strength of the community in Whatcom County and the wider region provides a great opportunity to achieve this vision together, on behalf of the survivors we serve and our future generations.”

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services is a private non-profit organization 501 (c)(3) that provides a wide range of crisis intervention, support services and prevention education to individuals affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse in Whatcom County, Washington. The agency serves all survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault regardless of age, gender, race, or sexual orientation. DVSAS has been providing services in Whatcom County since 1979.

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