



IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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End Hunger Connecticut! Officially Names Executive Director

EAST HARTFORD, CONN. – End Hunger Connecticut! (EHC!) is thrilled to announce the official hire of Julieth Callejas as permanent Executive Director. Callejas has served as EHC!’s Interim Executive Director since September 2021 and was recently unanimously selected by the organization’s Board of Directors to serve in the role permanently following a national search.

“Julieth embodies the mission and values that drive EHC!’s work. During her time as Interim Executive Director, she provided exemplary leadership, strategic thinking, and collaborative approaches, moving the organization forward on numerous levels,” EHC! Board Chair Grace Damio said.

Callejas, who identifies as Native American and Hispanic, is specifically Colombian and from the Indigenous community of Kiloka Playa Verde. She is a first-generation immigrant, bilingual in English and Spanish, and is EHC!’s first Executive Director of color in the organization’s 20-year history.

Prior to her role as Interim Executive Director, Callejas served EHC! as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, and earlier as a program volunteer. Callejas also has extensive experience leading programs related to food security. She has operated CT Summer Meals sites, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) family home daycare sites, afterschool meal programs, and older adult meal programs. She was also the first sponsor in Connecticut to operate a summer meals and afterschool meals program at a HUD housing complex, run completely by volunteers. Further, Callejas directed operations in early childhood centers and opened her own home daycare in 2008. In 2019, she also established a home care agency for older adults and people with disabilities. Callejas holds a Bachelor of Science in Social Service and Disability Studies and is currently working on earning her Master of Science in Organizational Effectiveness and Leadership at Charter Oak State College.

“I became involved with End Hunger Connecticut! because I believe that food insecurity is an equity issue and access to adequate, quality food is a fundamental right and essential to the well-being of communities across Connecticut,” Callejas said. “I am honored to take on this role and to work with staff and EHC! partners towards achieving food security for all Connecticut residents.”

Founded in 2001, EHC! is a statewide anti-hunger nonprofit in CT dedicated to eliminating hunger and promoting healthy nutrition through outreach, public education, and legislative and administrative advocacy. By partnering with state and local officials, schools, and community-based organizations, EHC! enhances the visibility and coordination of federal food assistance programs crucial to any effort to improve food security while increasing both family well-being and the amount of federal funding available to the state. EHC! engages in strategic outreach, capacity building, and provides technical assistance on food and nutrition programs. Learn more about EHC! at www.endhungerct.org and on all social platforms (@endhungerct).

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