



richmond area multi-services, inc.

a not-for-profit organization

November 3, 2016

To all RAMS Staff, including Interns and Trainees,

The RAMS Board of Directors is formally announcing the departure of Kavoos G. Bassiri, LMFT, LPCC, CGP, President and Chief Executive Officer of RAMS.

Please join us in appreciating his 17-plus years of devoted service to RAMS, which includes over 13 years of inspired leadership in the role of President and CEO. Mr. Bassiri is a highly skilled clinician, teacher, and trailblazer who brought a wealth of experience, dedication, and creativity to our agency. Under his steadfast guidance, RAMS vastly expanded its reach and scope of services, both in increasing the capacity of its current programs, as well as bringing a greater array of Vocational/Rehabilitation and Peer-Based Services into its fold. Throughout this growth, Mr. Bassiri ensured that RAMS continued its position as a nationally-recognized leader in the promotion of cultural competence and the training of mental health service providers, never losing the vision of developing and implementing innovative and effective community-based services and programs to serve a wide spectrum of individuals with mental health needs.

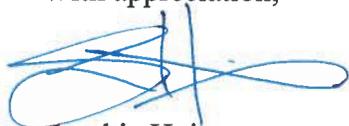
Prior to his current position, he served as Director of Operations at the highly successful Bridge To Wellness program, a Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Programs formerly operated by Department of Psychiatry at San Francisco General Hospital in collaboration with RAMS, starting in 1995. He is also an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSF School of Medicine, and is the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award by the Academy of Medical Educators at UCSF. Mr. Bassiri has served as one of the contributors/consultants for the DSM-5 on Gender and Cross-Cultural Issues, and in June 2013, participated in the invitation-only Mental Health Conference held at The White House, hosted by President Obama and Vice President Biden. He has traveled to many countries in Asia and Southeast Asia, as an invited volunteer healthcare professional with Doctor to Doctor organization or as a consultant, participating in educational conferences & exchanges, and providing assistance and consultation to other healthcare professionals on a local, national, and international level. In his next role, he has been appointed as the next Director of Behavioral Health Services at the San Francisco Department of Public Health commencing in January 2017, a role in which he will doubtlessly continue to influence and guide the provision of behavioral health services on a much larger capacity. The RAMS Board of Directors was honored and humbled to work with an individual of Mr. Bassiri's caliber; his leadership as well as his enthusiasm, kindness, and sense of humor, will be greatly missed.

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Christina Shea, LMFT, as the Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of RAMS. Ms. Shea has been serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief / Director of Clinical Services, directly overseeing the various clinical departments and services at RAMS since 2007. A bilingual Cantonese-speaking Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist with almost 30 years of experience in the mental health field, Ms. Shea has over 17 years of experience in various capacities at RAMS, the latter majority of it in management roles. She shares the agency's vision for clinical programs in the full-spectrum continuum of care, and has a collaborative spirit and successful management style recognized by colleagues, agency partners, and the larger community. She brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and expertise to this position, and we are confident that her appointment will facilitate a smooth transition and continuation of RAMS operations.

We recognize the significance of this position to our stakeholders, as well as RAMS's considerable standing in the community. In the spirit of transparency and as part of our due diligence to ensure the continued long-term success of RAMS, the Board will undertake a full and comprehensive Executive Search for the position of President and Chief Executive Officer. Additional details of this recruitment will be distributed publicly as well as posted on our website www.ramsinc.org, once these are finalized.

All questions regarding the recruitment can be directed to Trina de Joya, Director of Human Resources, at trinadejoya@ramsinc.org.

With appreciation,



Cynthia Huie
Chair, RAMS Board of Directors