



For Immediate Release
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FYI APPOINTS EILEEN LYONS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

New York, NY – The Board of Directors of Fresh Youth Initiatives, a nonprofit organization that empowers bilingual, bicultural children and teens in Washington Heights to become confident, compassionate leaders and successful learners, has appointed Eileen Lyons as Executive Director. In this role, Lyons will lead FYI into its third decade of service, and will oversee FYI’s expansion of existing afterschool services to the predominantly Latino youth population it serves.

Lyons has dedicated her entire career to the youth development field and has worked in education, foster care, and out-of-school programs. Most recently, she ran a consulting practice, training youth service providers in team conferencing to strengthen their programs. Prior to her consulting work and for seventeen years, Lyons served as Executive Director of Interfaith Neighbors in New York City, where she launched programs, evaluation, and research in reading and literacy, bereavement, and single-gender programming for early adolescent boys and girls.

Lyons is not new to FYI, having co-founded FYI’s Welcome Program for immigrant children. She also served as the Interim Executive Director prior to her appointment as Executive Director.

“It’s been an unexpected and exciting turn in my career path. Last September, the Board of Directors asked me to assume the role of FYI’s acting executive director. Before I knew it, I’d fallen in love -- with the kids, the staff, and the mission. FYI’s commitment to community service and social-emotional learning, and our more recent interest in English language acquisition and STEM, is absolutely compelling.”

About Fresh Youth Initiatives (FYI): Founded in 1993, FYI is a second home to more than 300 young people ages 10 -18 each year. Collectively, FYI youth provide more than 10,000 hours of service to the community annually. FYI complements its community service core with academic support, college preparation, arts and cultural enrichment activities, exposure to meaningful new experiences, and personal guidance from our staff.

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