



NEW YORK, NY, February 11, 2019– ZanaAfrica Foundation is pleased to announce that it has named Alison Nakamura Netter as Executive Director. Melinda Wolfe, Board Chair of ZanaAfrica Foundation, and Megan Mukuria, Founder of ZanaAfrica, recently made the announcement.

Alison Nakamura Netter joined ZanaAfrica Foundation as Chief Communications & Development Officer in October 2015. Since that time, she has successfully grown the organization’s fundraising, communications, and brand recognition year after year, while also assuming the day-to-day operations of the Foundation. Prior to ZanaAfrica, Nakamura Netter served as Director of Marketing & Communications at the Food Bank for New York City, and as Senior Director of Communications at The Somaly Mam Foundation, also located in New York City. She holds a BA in Sociology from Northeastern University and a Master’s degree in Social Work (MSW) from the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, a leading MSW program that is deeply rooted in the tenants of social justice.

Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, ZanaAfrica was founded in 2007 with a mission to expand access to rights-based reproductive health education and sanitary pads to adolescent girls. Since then, ZanaAfrica has become a leading voice in elevating menstrual health management and sexual and reproductive health education as key priority areas for advancing the rights of women and girls.

As Executive Director of ZanaAfrica Foundation, based in New York, Nakamura Netter will work closely with the Foundation’s US Board of Directors to grow the organization’s fundraising base, increase partnerships, strengthen brand communications, and expand advocacy in support of ZanaAfrica’s Kenya-based programs. “On behalf of all of us at ZanaAfrica Foundation, we are thrilled to announce Alison’s new role as Executive Director,” Ms. Wolfe said. “In addition to her skill set in

nonprofit communications and fundraising, we have come to deeply value her acumen for nonprofit organizational management,” Wolfe continued.

“The timing of Alison’s well-deserved promotion is ideal. As we prepare for accelerated growth of the organization to best serve adolescent girls, we are thrilled to see her step into this position.” said Ms. Mukuria. “In my role as Founder, I will continue to work closely with Alison and the Foundation’s Board of Directors on fundraising, while driving ZanaAfrica’s strategic vision, thought leadership, and programs from Kenya.”

“This is a very exciting time for ZanaAfrica Foundation and I am incredibly motivated by the opportunities of my new leadership position,” said Nakamura Netter. “We have an extremely important mission and my goal is to continue to grow our impact in service of girls and the advancement of gender equality,” Nakamura Netter added. “The challenges of adolescence are universal, and I personally feel a deep urgency to help girls realize their power and potential.” she continued.

About ZanaAfrica Foundation

ZanaAfrica Foundation equips adolescent girls with the tools they need to safely and confidently navigate puberty. Working in Kenya, ZanaAfrica Foundation provides sanitary pads and reproductive health education to more than 10,000 girls a year, while also leading local and international advocacy efforts to de-stigmatize menstruation. Working with local community-based organizations, policymakers, and other key partners for over a decade, ZanaAfrica Foundation is a leading voice in elevating menstrual health management and sexual and reproductive health and rights as key priority areas for advancing the rights of women and girls.

For more information visit www.zanaafrica.org

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