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Hunters Point Family Appoints New Chief Executive Officer

New CEO Ralph Payton Has Spent 20 Years Working with Children and Families

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Hunters Point Family, a grass-roots, community-based organization that provides holistic programs supporting at-risk youth and young adults living in Bayview/Hunters Point, San Francisco, is pleased to announce the appointment of Ralph Payton as its Chief Executive Officer, beginning February 1, 2019.

Mr. Payton’s commitment to social and economic justice spans an impressive career of more than 20 years in senior management roles directing nonprofit human service organizations, with expertise in creating and managing youth education and enrichment programs, homelessness services, public policy, and community development. He has worked extensively with African-American and other under-served youth, culminating in his role as director of an alternative high school in New York’s South Bronx neighborhoods whose mission was to empower older youth with attaining high school diplomas and support for college access.

Previous Hunters Point Family Executive Director and Founder, Lena Miller, recently decided to pursue her doctorate degree and found another nonprofit in San Francisco. Her new nonprofit, Urban Alchemy, endeavors to empower the disenfranchised with employment training and opportunities. The HPF community is grateful for her vision, dedication, and compassion for the Bayview/Hunters Point community over the past twenty years.

From 2015 to 2018, Payton served as Executive Director at Raphael House, a nonprofit provider of homelessness services for families in San Francisco that provides residential services, mental health and career support to thousands of homeless parents and their children. Prior to this role, Payton was Shelter Director at Hamilton Families, another organization dedicated to improving the lives of families experiencing homelessness.
"Hunters Point Family has proven over the past 20 years to be one of the most innovative and successful community organizations in the Bayview/Hunters Point communities," said Ralph Payton. "HPF’s mission and the work I’ve been doing my entire career are perfectly matched. I can’t wait to continue the successful impact of this organization as we prepare youth to become independent, strong, and productive adults in this community and beyond."

"The board is thrilled to have a proven leader of Ralph’s caliber to carry on Hunters Point Family's successful record of partnering with 200 youths and their families each year in programs that comprehensively support and serve each young person’s social, educational, recreational and home needs. We are confident that Ralph’s initiatives will help us increase our impact for an even greater number of families and youth," said board president James Loyce.

Payton was appointed in 2016 by San Francisco’s late Mayor Lee to co-chair San Francisco’s Local Homeless Coordinating Board, which is the lead entity for the San Francisco Continuum of Care on Homelessness. He also serves on the Advisory Board of the University of San Francisco’s Master of Nonprofit Administration Program. Ralph earned a Master of Clinical Psychology from Nova Southeastern University in South Florida and a Bachelor of Science in Counseling Psychology from Andrews University in Michigan. He lives with his wife, Kara Zordel, and their two dogs in San Francisco.

**About Hunters Point Family**

Established in 1997, Hunters Point Family is a grass-roots, community-based organization that provides holistic programs supporting education, leadership and workforce development, arts enrichment, and recreation to at-risk African American youth and young adults living in the Bayview Hunters Point community of San Francisco.