

LIFELINE SYRIA ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF

TORONTO – May 30, 2016 – Lifeline Syria, a leading community engagement initiative, which was launched on June 17, 2015 in response to the ongoing humanitarian refugee crises, to assist sponsor groups to welcome and resettle 1,000 Syrian refugees as permanent residents in the GTA, announced today the appointment of Lesley Brown, B.A. M.A. Ed., as Executive Director of the organization, reporting to the board of directors, effective July 4, 2016.

Ms. Brown has over 15 years of combined experience in executive director, director and management roles. In her past role as executive director at Essential Skills Ontario, a provincial policy and research organization, Ms. Brown led the transformation of the organization into a dynamic not-for-profit, with an influential voice at key decision-making tables across Canada.

She previously worked in management roles for the Ontario Literacy Coalition, AlphaPlus Centre and the Toronto District School Board. Ms. Brown sits on the Board of Directors for Times Change Women’s Employment Service, and previously sat on the boards of ABC Life Literacy Canada, the Canadian Literacy and Learning Network and TESL Canada.

Ms. Brown holds a Masters Degree in Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University, a Bachelors degree from York University, a certificate in Conflict Mediation from the University of Guelph, and Teaching English as a Second Language Certificate.

In addition to Ms. Brown’s appointment, Lifeline Syria also announces the following staff appointments:

- Ms. Tal Schreier as Legal Coordinator;
- Ms. Seher Shafiq as Manager of Volunteer & Community Engagement; and
- Ms. Ban Kattan; Ms. Katherine Davis; Ms. Kathleen Motluk; and Ms. Rabea Soofi as Program Coordinators.

“I am very pleased to welcome Ms. Brown and the new members of our team to Lifeline Syria, and look forward to the benefit of Ms. Brown’s considerable expertise and experience and the contributions of our staff, as we serve our mandate of continuing Canada’s proud history of refugee resettlement. I am especially pleased that Ms. Schreier; Ms. Davis and Ms. Motluk, who have been working with Lifeline Syria, will continue to serve our clients,” said Frank Palmay, Chairman.

“I am excited to be joining Lifeline Syria, and look forward to working with the board of directors, and the staff to meet our mission to bring 1,000 Syrian refugees to the GTA with the participation of private sponsors,” said Ms. Brown.



For further information, please contact: Frank Palmay, Chairman, Lifeline Syria, 40 University Avenue, Suite 420, Toronto, Ontario M5J 1T1, Phone: 647.943.6300, Email: chairman@lifelinesyria.ca