



## CALIFORNIA HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CHD Board Names Anita Maldonado as Chief Executive Officer

New CEO to set future course for anti-poverty agency celebrating 50 years

Santa Rosa, CA (February 24, 2017) -- California Human Development (CHD), a leader in the War on Poverty serving farmworkers and others of low income for 50 years, today announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Anita Maldonado, Ph.D. as incoming Chief Executive Officer. Maldonado will join CHD on April 17, 2017 and work with retiring CEO Christopher Paige during a two-month transition period. Maldonado comes to CHD with an extensive background in social services and community action; she is currently the Chief Operating Officer for IMPACT Community Action in Columbus, Ohio.

"This is the perfect time for Anita Maldonado to join California Human Development, as the agency prepares to serve low income communities for the next 50 years and beyond," said CHD Board Chair Miguel Mejia. "She's a very strong leader coming in to assist our most impoverished communities at a crucial time. We are excited by her breadth of experience and perspective, which encompasses nonprofit leadership in programmatic, operations, fundraising and executive capacities."

Maldonado was selected following an extensive nationwide and international search, led by Sonoma County's Leap Solutions Group. She joins CHD in the midst of the agency's milestone 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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celebration and will serve as only the fourth chief executive officer in the organization's rich and lengthy history.

"I'm pleased to welcome Anita Maldonado and confident that she'll ensure excellent service to those we assist across northern California" said Chris Paige, who retires in June following 42 years with CHD. "My plan, meantime, is to enjoy a more leisurely lifestyle while also remaining actively involved with CHD's mission, staff, clients and partners," he adds.

"It is an incredible honor for me to lead and serve California Human Development in its 50th year," said Maldonado. "As the incoming CEO, I am looking forward to carrying on the legacy of the founders as well as building upon what my predecessor Chris Paige accomplished during his tenure. I'm committed to advancing the work that CHD is doing for the communities it serves and am thrilled to work with the Board and the talented staff and volunteers to take the agency to the next level."

Maldonado's extensive experience focuses on development and successful program implementation serving people of low income, including emergency assistance, financial services, workforce development, re-entry, youth services and affordable housing, among other programs. She is also a member of the adjunct faculty at Franklin University and Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

Maldonado will lead CHD's team of 240 staff based in Santa Rosa and with offices across northern California. The agency, which was inspired in service to migrant and seasonal farmworkers in 1967, is today a non-profit, human services provider waging the War on Poverty across 31 northern California counties. CHD creates opportunities for people from all walks of life who struggle in the grips of poverty to achieve self-sufficiency. Through training and employment, affordable housing, immigration assistance, disABILITY services and recovery from addiction, CHD gives those who labor most a hand up to the American Dream. To date, the agency has served over 500,000 people and counting.

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