



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Center for Families Learning launches search for new President as Founder announces plans to retire

LOUISVILLE, KY (April 26, 2021) – A national search launched today to select a new president for the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL). The organization’s founder and current president, Sharon Darling, will retire later this year. Darling founded the organization 32 years ago and has led it to status as the nation’s top authority on intergenerational learning.

NCFL’s mission is to help eradicate poverty through education solutions for families. Originally founded to help families by breaking the generational cycle of illiteracy, NCFL has broadened its scope to include community service and professional development. To date, more than 4.5 million parents, caregivers and children throughout the United States have improved their lives through education offered through NCFL.

Based in Louisville, with additional statewide offices in Arizona and Nebraska, NCFL leads programs in 150 communities in 39 states. One of its biggest impacts has been with the Bureau of Indian Education, where programs reach families on multiple Native American reservations.

The organization’s effectiveness is a result of partnering with educators, literacy and family engagement advocates, and policymakers. The intentional formation of these relationships supports increased academic achievement and development for students from historically underrepresented and marginalized communities.

The new president will lead the NCFL and its 50-person staff in strategic planning, including family programs, community and government relationships, and policy development.

“The incoming president must have a sincere passion for our mission,” said NCFL Board Chair Rick Barr. “The ideal candidate will be a visionary, who can relate to the needs of families we serve and also have the skills of an executive. Sharon and her team have built a reputation nationally as the premier resource for family learning, and the new leader will be heading up a very well-established, professional organization.”

“NCFL is in a great place,” said Darling. “I’m so proud of our strong team of professionals who have committed themselves to improving the lives of families. I know the new president will be impressed with the collective wealth of talent of the team. I will continue to contribute as an active member of the NCFL Board of Directors and support the organization in a variety of ways.”

The Board of Directors has selected Cassie Scarano of Koya Partners to lead the search for a new president. Part of the Diversified Search Group, Koya is a leading executive search firm working specifically with mission-driven organizations. The Position Announcement can be found at <https://koyapartners.com/search/ncfl-president/>.

Those wishing to learn more about the role or to recommend potential candidates should reach out to Koya at ncflpresident@koyapartners.com.

About the National Center for Families Learning

The National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) is a national nonprofit that works to eradicate poverty through education solutions for families. Partnering with educators, literacy advocates, and policymakers, NCFL develops and provides programming, professional development, and resources for families. Through these efforts, we invite parents and caregivers to recognize their voice and power to make change in their lives, the lives of children, and their communities. For more information on NCFL, visit familieslearning.org.

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