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Executive Leadership Transition at the Foundation for Women & Girls with Blood Disorders: FWGBD Board Announces Next Executive Director

MONTCLAIR, NJ (October 20, 2017) – The Foundation for Women & Girls with Blood Disorders (FWGBD) has announced the appointment of Kerry Funkhouser, EdD to be the next Executive Director, starting November 15, 2017. Ms. Funkhouser will succeed Ann-Marie Nazzaro, PhD, who is retiring after leading FWGBD since its inception in 2009.

The FWGBD Board of Directors conducted an extensive, nationwide search, reviewing over 120 applicants during a multi-month interview and selection process. "We have been incredibly fortunate to have Ann-Marie's visionary leadership through our formative years, a period of rapid growth and development of the organization," said Dr. Andra H. James, Board President of FWGBD. "During the rigorous interview process, we met with several remarkable individuals. Kerry Funkhouser, FWGBD's current Director of Education, shone as a superb candidate receiving the unanimous support of the Board."

Ms. Funkhouser, EdD, has served as Director of Education for the Foundation since 2013. She has over 20 years of experience in the non-profit arena, focused on the diffusion of education innovations, broadening participation, strategic planning, and public relations and marketing. While at FWGBD, Funkhouser spearheaded the development of the Foundation's Women and Girls Blood Disorder Learning Action Network (WGBD LAN), a network initially focused on bleeding disorders that is designed to harness the power of collaboration, spread practical implementation of best practices, and connect participants to national initiative activities and resources – all with the aim of achieving bold improvements in the quality of care for women and girls with blood disorders.

"It has been an honor to work on the Foundation's education efforts, helping to advance its mission, and I am thrilled to serve in this new position," Funkhouser said. "I look forward to working with the Board, Medical Advisory Committee, our staff and partners as we build on Ann-Marie's years of tremendous leadership to grow this organization and expand the efficacy of our work."

Founding Executive Director, Ann-Marie Nazzaro, strongly endorsed the selection of Ms. Funkhouser, saying she is an outstanding leader with a deep commitment and energy to educate healthcare providers, across specialties, about the unique issues that women and girls with blood disorders face across the lifespan. "I'm delighted with the selection of Kerry. She has the skills, experience and knowledge to lead FWGBD though its next stage of growth and mission impact," said Nazzaro, "I know FWGBD and its singular momentum will be in good hands."

This leadership transition will occur on November 15, 2017, with Ann-Marie Nazzaro remaining in a Director Emeritus advisory role through the end of December 2017.

About the Foundation for Women & Girls with Blood Disorders

FWGBD is a nonprofit organization that seeks to ensure that all women and girls with blood disorders are correctly diagnosed and optimally treated and managed at every life stage. It was founded in 2010 by Drs. Andra H. James, Barbara A. Konkle, and Roshni Kulkarni,

FWGBD works to achieve this goal through raising awareness and educating key healthcare providers for each particular life stage, as well as translating and disseminating provider information and research.

For more information, please visit http://www.fwgbd.org

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