



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AbilityFirst Announces New Chair of the Board of Directors, Pasadena resident, Wendy Lees

PASADENA, CA (January 24, 2020) AbilityFirst announces today Wendy Lees, a retired executive in administrative operations with Capital Group, has been elected as Chair of the Board, following Harlan Thompson.

The new executive committee for 2020 consists of Wendy Lees (Chair), Ray Cherry (Vice Chair), Randy Repp (Treasurer) and Kathryn Sanders Platnick (Secretary) and David Saeta (Member at Large.) Also, on the Board of Directors is, Steve Brockmeyer, Will Craig, Mike Dokmanovich, Mark Fedde, Tom Fenchel, Richard R. Frank, Lauren Hom, John Kelly, Joanne Kim, Carol Llewellyn, John Suruy, Harlan Thompson and Patricia Vick.

Wendy is a native Southern Californian who studied accounting at the University of Southern California. She began her career as a CPA with Deloitte (formerly Haskins and Sells) and then moved into private industry in various roles in finance, administration, and human resources.

She has been involved with various nonprofits including serving as Chair of Pasadena Heritage. In addition to her role at AbilityFirst, she currently serves on the Boards of Hillside and Descanso Gardens.

“I believe in the mission of AbilityFirst,” says Wendy, “and I look forward to helping our CEO Lori Gangemi and the team supporting children and adults with disabilities to achieve their personal best.”

About AbilityFirst

AbilityFirst provides a variety of programs that have a common mission: to help people with disabilities realize their full potential throughout their lives. As we celebrate more than 94 years of service, we are focusing our efforts on programs that are proven to have the greatest impact on a person’s success: basic life skills enhancement through our children’s and adult programs;

higher education and employment readiness; and, independent living and social and recreational programming.

AbilityFirst looks beyond disabilities, focuses on the capabilities of each individual and breaks through any preconceived limitations, opening up a world of possibilities. Preparation, socialization, communication, education – all leading to helping people achieve their personal best.

To learn more visit www.abilityfirst.org and follow us on social media facebook.com/abilityfirst., Instagram.com/abilityfirstla, twitter.com/abilityfirst or call Rebecca Hausling at 626-639-1745.

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