



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: JUNE 4, 2018

Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County Announces Steve Piekarski as New Executive Director

ST. LOUIS PARK, Minn., June 4, 2018 — Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County's Board of Directors is pleased to announce Steve Piekarski as the agency's new executive director. Piekarski comes to CAP-HC from The Arc Minnesota where he served as Chief Program Officer.

In his new role, Piekarski will lead CAP-HC in updating the agency's strategic plan. The agency's top program priorities include Housing, Transportation, and Energy Services, expanding agency programs and services throughout Hennepin County, including the City of Minneapolis. Piekarski will guide fundraising and strategic planning efforts, build public, private, and community partnerships, and advance the organization's mission *"to ensure a life of dignity and opportunity for those in need throughout Hennepin County."*

"I'm excited to join an innovative and passionate team at an organization whose mission aligns with my own personal values," said Piekarski. "Community Action has a 50+ year history of addressing the challenges of people in need nationwide. I look forward to moving the organization into the next stage of expansion into Minneapolis and continuing the impactful work across the rest of Hennepin County."

More about Piekarski:

Piekarski brings a wealth of experience to Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County from his distinguished 20-year career in social services. Prior to The Arc Minnesota, he was Associate Vice President, Older Adult Services at Lutheran Social Service Minnesota. Previous positions include Senior Director for Partners in Community Supports, Product Manager at UCare, and Policy Analyst for the Minnesota Department of Human Services. He also has been active in the community as a member of local boards and commissions, including serving on the Three Rivers Park District Foundations Board of Directors, Children's Defense Fund Advisory Board and elected to the Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Board of Directors

Piekarski has lived in NE Minneapolis for the last 14 years. He earned a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin River Falls and a Master's Degree in Public and non-profit administration from Metropolitan State University. He and his family enjoy spending time engaged in outdoor activities like camping, fishing, and kayaking.

Like many organizations and businesses, CAP-HC has faced challenging times, and has taken a number of steps to ensure agency sustainability and accountability. The Board of Directors has a clear vision of its future and the desired results for both the agency and the communities we serve.

“The Board of Directors and staff look forward to working constructively with Mr. Piekarski, our community partners and stakeholders to accelerate the progress made in expanding CAP-HC. We remain committed to giving our best in service and support of the agency’s mission,” said Mary Brindle, Board Chairperson.

About Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County:

Created in 1986, Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County (CAP-HC) works to establish services, programs and partnerships that address poverty and increase family and economic stability in Hennepin County, including the City of Minneapolis. CAP-HC’s provides a wide range of social and supportive services including: Energy Assistance, Community Development, Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota, Financial Literacy workshops, Food Support/SNAP, Foreclosure Prevention, Homebuyer Education and Counseling, Housing Stabilization and Eviction Prevention, Legal Clinics, MNSure Navigation, Reverse Mortgage Counseling, Tax Assistance Program, and Veteran Services.

CAP-HC is one of the largest nonprofit Community Action Agencies in the State of Minnesota, and serves more than 30,000 eligible households across Hennepin County annually. CAP-HC operates from five locations, with approximately 60 full and part-time employees, and a \$6.4 million annual budget, with numerous community partnerships, volunteers and collaborations as part of its service delivery model. CAP-HC is one of 24 community action agencies in Minnesota, and part of the national Community Action Partnership, America’s largest anti-poverty fighting network with over 1100+ agencies nationwide.

#

Media Contact: Mary Brindle, CAP-HC Board Chairperson
mbrindle@comcast.net | 612-270-9887