



MEDIA ALERT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dina Menzie Joins Abilities First's Executive Team
Named new Chief Program Officer

Poughkeepsie, N.Y. (March 20, 2018) – Dina Menzie has joined Abilities First, a Hudson Valley-based nonprofit providing services for over 1,400 individuals people with developmental and intellectual disabilities, as its Chief Program Officer. Dina will be responsible for day-to-day operational oversight of all residential, service coordination, community habilitation, day habilitation, employment, and educational services and programs.

“We are pleased to have Dina join our executive leadership team as we strive for progress and growth in all areas of the organization,” said Jeffery Fox, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer of Abilities First. “Her experience in program operations and technology will allow Abilities First to makes significant strides in making use of new knowledge and technologies for the benefit of individuals we serve.”

Menzie most recently served as Chief Operating Officer for Seamen's Society for Children and Families, a \$20 million charity in New York City where she led a multi-office IT transformation, agency-wide implementation of evidence-based practice and opened three new business lines. Dina has also worked as Chief of Staff for Special Projects to the CEO and COO of The Children's Village, a \$90 million charity, doing work in NYC and surrounding areas, Michigan, Australia, The Netherlands and Iraq.

Dina's experience in the for-profit sector includes working on IT and software development teams in the financial industry at companies such as Spear, Leeds & Kellogg (acquired by Goldman Sachs) a leader in trading, execution and clearing technology and Credit Suisse Asset Management in NYC. Menzie has a Master of Science in Social Work from Columbia University and recently completed a Value in Health Care certificate through Harvard Business School's Executive Education program.

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About Abilities First

Founded in 1962, Abilities First is a not-for-profit organization serving the needs of the community, as well as those with developmental disabilities, from pre-school through adulthood. Abilities First has had a long-term commitment of providing a cohesive culture of compassion, empowerment and respect for people with a variety of disabilities through educational, vocational, residential and habilitation services. It presently serves over 1,400 children and adults throughout the Hudson Valley region of New York State. AF is accredited for the person-centered care by the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL).

Abilities First's mission is to provide people with disabilities and their families support to attain independence, self-determination, integration and acceptance by others through education, exploration and experience.

For more information, visit www.AbilitiesFirstNY.org or on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/AbilitiesFirstInc.