



Release Date: January 11, 2024

Contact: Chelle Fried
Director of Digital Marketing and Community Relations
406-750-0966 or e-mail: chellef@esgw.org

New Easterseals-Goodwill president/CEO Mark Sherman takes the helm in March, bringing passion for nonprofit's mission.

Great Falls, MT- Easterseals-Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain Inc.'s board of directors has named Mark Sherman as the next president/CEO of the nonprofit that serves Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah. He will assume his new position on March 9th. Sherman is currently the chief financial officer and vice president of fiscal and program operations at Easterseals-Goodwill. Sherman will succeed retiring president and CEO Michelle Belknap who has served the organization for 35 years in a variety of leadership roles, including the past 23 years as president/CEO.

Sherman's current leadership and management responsibilities include oversight of the organization's financial operations and its five program service lines: disability, clinical, children's, employment and job training, and behavioral health. He joined Easterseals-Goodwill in 2013 as director of finance, was promoted to vice president of finance in 2018 and to CFO/vice president of fiscal and program operations in 2019.

"We feel extremely confident in the knowledge and experience Mark brings to the position of president and CEO," said board chair Cara Piccono. "He deeply understands the culture and mission of Easterseals-Goodwill. He is passionate about enhancing and expanding our services, supporting and growing our employees and maintaining our organization's culture."

Sherman says he's excited for the opportunity to lead Easterseals-Goodwill toward making an even greater impact in the lives of individuals in need of the organization's services across its four-state region, to ensuring employees have the support and opportunities they need to succeed in their roles, and in providing excellent customer service to Goodwill shoppers and donors.

Before joining Easterseals-Goodwill, Sherman served as the senior manager of resource accounting with Plum Creek Timber Company, Inc. and a senior associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers. He holds an MBA in finance from the University of Notre Dame, is a CPA, and earned a bachelor of science degree in business-accounting from Montana State University-Bozeman.

In reflecting on her retirement Belknap said, "The decision to retire was not easy as the organization, the mission and the people have been a part of my life for so long. Easterseals-

Goodwill has a strong leadership team and board of directors in place, and I know Mark will continue to do great things to serve our communities as the new president/CEO. There are exciting opportunities ahead for the organization.”

Since assuming the position of president/CEO in 2000, Belknap has overseen tremendous growth of the regional non-profit organization. Belknap also has served the local community in Great Falls, Montana as a board member of the Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce from 2003-2009 and was board chair in 2009. She received the Athena Award for Leadership in 2008 from the Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. Nationally, Belknap has served on numerous Goodwill Industries International and Easterseals Inc. boards and committees.

Easterseals-Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain Inc. is a non-profit organization with employment and job training, community integration and housing for adults with intellectual disabilities, children’s therapy, and health-related programs for adults and seniors. Easterseals-Goodwill provides 16 different programs in 47 locations in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah.