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LIFT APPOINTS THREE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 31, 2018) – LIFT, a national nonprofit working with families to break the cycle of poverty, is pleased to announce the appointments of Arlene Ford, founder and CEO of the Equity Inquiry Project; Myra Jones-Taylor, chief policy officer at ZERO TO THREE; and Dele Oladapo, vice president & chief enterprise architect and technical innovation officer at Prudential to its national board of directors effective immediately.

“Arlene, Myra and Dele are preeminent leaders in their respective fields and we are thrilled to welcome them to the LIFT board of directors,” said Kirsten Lodal, LIFT’s founder and CEO. “As we mark our 20th anniversary in the year ahead and begin the work of planning for the next 20 years, we believe their strong experience, notably in equity and inclusion, early childhood policy, and building socially responsible businesses, will be extremely valuable as we expand our services and have even greater impact on the families we serve and the systems that hold them back.”

“We conducted an exhaustive search for new members who would further strengthen our board’s breadth and depth of talent, and we are delighted to have identified such outstanding individuals, all of whom have already been part of the LIFT family in various capacities,” said Steve Rotella, LIFT’s national board chair. “I’m confident Arlene, Myra and Dele are going to make an important and positive impact on the organization in this critical new leadership capacity.”

Arlene Ford, founder and CEO of Equity Inquiry Project



Arlene Ford is the founder and CEO of the Equity Inquiry Project Inc. (EquiP), a project aimed at promoting educational equity and success for all students. She also works to support equity within the nonprofit arena. Through EquiP, Arlene provides equity design consultations and related strategic planning. She facilitates equity, inclusion and diversity conversations and learning opportunities among education leaders, teachers and nonprofit organizations. Whether

focusing on issues such as overall work or school culture, schools’ failure of students, or promoting effective discipline, she takes a systemic approach. Her work addresses change at the personal, interpersonal and organizational levels.

[Link to Bio](#)



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Myra Jones-Taylor, chief policy officer at ZERO TO THREE



As the Chief Policy Officer at ZERO TO THREE, Myra Jones-Taylor leads the development and implementation of ZERO TO THREE’s policy agenda, priorities and strategies; oversees the Policy Center, which includes federal and state policy, advocacy and federally-funded technical assistance units; and serves as the principal spokesperson and point of contact for the organization on public policy matters with policymakers, the media, funders, and partner organizations. [Link to Bio](#)

Dele Oladapo, vice president & chief enterprise architect and technical innovation officer at Prudential



Dele Oladapo is Vice President & Chief Enterprise Architect and Technical Innovation Officer for Prudential Financial, Inc. In this role, he implements technology strategy and delivers technology services designed to advance the company’s U.S. business strategy. He oversees efforts within the Global Business and Technology Solutions department to drive governance, architecture, systems automation, relationship management and the development of

enterprise applications and solutions. Oladapo also leads the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), a team focused on strengthening the technology community through strategic planning, communications, engagement and talent management. [Link to Bio](#)

About LIFT

LIFT is a national nonprofit headquartered in Washington, D.C. with offices in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York. LIFT’s mission is to empower families to break the cycle of poverty. We work one-on-one with parents and caregivers of children under eight to make actionable goal plans that enable them build the personal well-being, social connections and financial strength they need to create a brighter future for their family.

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