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NEWS RELEASE

## **Jule Gomes Noack Assumes Top Leadership Role At HMEA**

*Agency veteran becomes only the third President/CEO in the human service agency's 58-year history*

FRANKLIN, MA, July 1, 2020 -- Jule Gomes Noack begins her new leadership role as HMEA's President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective July 1, 2020.

Noack—unanimously approved earlier this year as the new President/CEO by HMEA's board of directors—has been a key member of HMEA's executive leadership team for the past 13 years and has served as President/COO since 2013. She joined the organization in 1987 as the agency's first clinical coordinator and, over the past 32 years, has worked directly in or managed nearly every program, service and administrative role within the organization.

"As CEO, Ms. Noack brings continued leadership stability and a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities on the horizon," said Katie Hauser, board president, HMEA. "She has a very clear, progressive vision for advancing HMEA's mission to teach, support and empower people with developmental disabilities and their families to live meaningful lives of their choice."

In her current role, Noack has led the creation and expansion of the agency's Quality, Learning and Performance department, which is focused on ensuring the highest levels of service quality, improving staff development methods to address a diverse workforce and measuring performance outcomes in all divisions and departments throughout the organization. She has also been the champion and driving force behind the development of HMEA's diversity initiative, which promotes a culture of inclusion with a strong focus on a resolution of respect and a 'No Place for Hate' workplace. HMEA employees come from more than 38 different countries.

"While this is certainly a challenging time for all human service agencies, our staff has done a remarkable job pivoting to virtual service delivery during the pandemic," said Noack. "We haven't skipped a beat when it comes to serving the individuals and families we support. We remain focused on our mission as we begin to retool our operations in order to reopen programs and facilities when it is safe and appropriate to do."

Noack will be only the third CEO in the 58-year history of the organization. She succeeds Michael Moloney, who served as CEO since 2000. Under Moloney's leadership, HMEA achieved significant

growth and success over the past two decades, growing from an organization serving 550 people to today providing comprehensive services to more than 5,000 people of all ages.

“As a woman of color, leading an organization with employees from 38 different countries, I recognize the importance of ensuring that our diversity, equity and inclusion work guarantees that this agency is a respectful and safe workplace that provides advancement for all of our employees and everyone we support,” said Noack. “I also see opportunities to continue to develop partnerships that will allow us to build upon our many accomplishments and to ensure a long and bright future for this organization.”

Moloney will remain with the organization serving as Executive Vice President for Government and Community Relations. In this new role, Moloney will continue to be an advocate and statewide leader on key issues impacting HMEA and all human service agencies such as improvements in data-driven outcomes, managed care transformation, and better pay and benefits for direct care staff.

Also effective on July 1, Michelle Donohue is promoted to Senior Vice President of Human Resources and Administrative Operations. Donohue has been with the organization since 2009, most recently serving as Vice President of Human Resources. In her new role, she will oversee HR, payroll, Information technology, business development and transportation.

For more information about HMEA, visit <http://www.hmea.org/>.

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### **About HMEA**

HMEA is a private, not for profit agency that supports more than 5,000 children and adults with developmental disabilities, and their families in more than 110 Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. HMEA’s mission is to teach, support and empower people with developmental disabilities and their families to live meaningful lives of their choice.

HMEA is committed to working in partnership with people with developmental disabilities and their families to create individualized supports that best meet their unique needs. HMEA believes that each person with a disability has a desire for a rich and varied life, including a physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual dimension.

<http://www.hmea.org/>