

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jen Haber

(619) 865-0684

[jennifer.haber@teachforamerica.org](mailto:jennifer.haber@teachforamerica.org)

**San Diego — May 27, 2021** — Teach For America (TFA) San Diego announced today that it has added seven new advisory board members to support its efforts in ensuring local students have access to an excellent education. The local advisory board oversees the vision and strategy of TFA San Diego.

A member of San Diego's education community since 2013, TFA San Diego recruits recent college graduates and professionals to make a lifelong commitment to educational equity, starting with serving as a teacher in a high-need classroom for two years. As leaders in the classroom, Teach For America teachers make an immediate impact on the lives of their students. The organization seeks to accelerate community progress in education through its collective impact of new teachers, known as corps members and veteran teachers, known as alumni, who lead across a variety of sectors and district partners.

"We are thrilled to have these new champions on board to support the work of TFA San Diego," said Executive Director, Randy Ward. "TFA's superpower is finding, developing and supporting exceptional and diverse leaders so they can transform education and expand opportunity with children, starting in the classroom. This includes all of our advisory board members, who are all deeply committed to this work." Under Ward's tenure, the local board has increased from three members to a total of 10 over the course of the past three years. This group of community leaders will help the organization reach its 10-year goal of reaching key educational milestones and being on a path to economic mobility. TFA is uniquely positioned to accelerate the changes needed in our education system. These local leaders will help us as we leverage the scale, diversity and transformative power of our more than 64,000 alumni teachers nationwide.

One of the newly named advisory board members, Debbie Day, said in accepting this role, "2020 presented countless challenges and highlighted the critical importance of diversity, equity and inclusion in our country and around the world. I am honored to join Teach for America's San Diego regional board of directors and support the organization's ongoing efforts to ensure that all children receive an equal opportunity to learn, grow, influence and lead."

**Newly named advisory board members:**

**Jack McGrory**, is CEO of La Jolla MJ Management, LLC, a real estate investment company. Mr. McGrory worked for the City of San Diego for twenty-three years and served as City Manager from March 1991 through August 1997. On September 2, 1997, he assumed the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of Price Enterprises, Inc. and oversaw the sale of that company in November 1999. From 1999 to 2000, he was Chief Operating Officer of the San Diego Padres and President of the subsidiary responsible for building Petco Park and the adjacent commercial development. From 2003-2004, he served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Price Legacy Corporation, a real estate investment trust specializing in the acquisition and management of retail power centers. Mr. McGrory was Manager of The Price Group from 2001-2009. The Group was a co-investor with CALPERS in more than \$1 billion in residential development and was a co-investor in Trans West Housing which built approximately 2,000 houses in the Coachella Valley and North San Diego County. Jack also served as President of the La Jolla High School Facilities Expansion Foundation and UCSD Board of Overseers and has served on the board of director for many San Diego organizations, including the USS Midway Museum Foundation, YMCA, Campanile Foundation of SDSU, Mainly Mozart, the Board of Visitors, USD Law School, and the National Advisory Council for Teach For America. Jack McGrory graduated from Colgate University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and received his Master's Degree in Public Administration from San Diego State University. He earned his Law Degree from the University of San Diego and is a member of the State Bar of California.

**Stephanie Alexander**, the senior vice president and chief human resources officer of the YMCA of San Diego County. Prior to joining YMCA of San Diego County, Stephanie was the senior manager of talent and organizational development at San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, where she worked for five years.

**Debbie Day** is the EVP and GM of Mitchell's Auto Physical Damage (APD) division. In this role since 2016, she is responsible for the APD P&L and all divisional functions; including Engineering, Product Management, Insurance & Repair Sales and Service, Customer Support, and Vehicle Authoring. Prior to joining Mitchell, Debbie was the Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President at ClosingCorp, and has also held executive positions at ACTIVE Network and CCC Information Services. Prior to CCC, Debbie worked in leadership at various technology companies and consulting with Ernst and Young. Debbie holds a BS in Computer Science from Miami University and an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

**Sam Sherman** is a partner at TencerSherman LLP. Sherman's practice focuses on defending and advising California employers on various aspects of employment law. He also specializes in defending corporations in employment related lawsuits. This work ranges from defending employment claims alleging individual and class action wage and hour violations as well as individual claims for harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful termination. He also spends a considerable portion of his practice defending school districts and other public entities in all areas of litigation. This includes personal injury, employment, and student sexual assault. He graduated in 1999 from the University of California, Los Angeles with a bachelor's degree in political science and a minor in policy studies. Sherman received his juris doctorate in 2003 from the University of San Diego School of Law.

**Keith B. Jones** is the Owner & Managing Partner of ACE PARKING. Founded in 1950, ACE is the largest and most prestigious family owned and operated parking and mobility company in North America. Jones has led the corporate strategy, operations and moral compass for Ace Parking since 2004, including the firm's expansion and emergence as the nation's premier parking company founded on technological innovations, extreme customer service values and a strong, purposeful internal company culture. Jones is responsible for the strategic and creative vision of the company, along with ensuring the company's growth and profitability. Jones & ACE have contributed to numerous charitable organizations through their PARK FOR PINK cause including Sisters Network, Inc., Alzheimer's Association, Lymphoma & Leukemia Society, Susan G. Komen. Jones is a graduate of NYU.

**Cipriano Vargas** is an advisor to County Supervisor Terra Lawson Remer at County of San Diego. He is a proud graduate of Vista Unified Schools, having attended Breeze Hill Elementary, Washington Middle School, and Vista High School. He currently serves as the Board President of the Vista Unified School Board. Vargas is a delegate to the California School Boards Association, and commonly makes legislative visits to state and federal representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C.. He is proud to represent Vista Unified School District Area 4, and to serve as the President of the Governing Board. Concurrently, Vargas serves on the Alumni Board for California State University San Marcos.

**Karmin Noar** is the executive director at Biocom Institute. She oversees strategies, programs and staff to drive initiatives focused on STEM education and workforce development. Her priorities include serving job seekers and employers as well as leveraging community partnerships to prepare the emerging workforce talent and advance the incumbent workers of the life science industry. Noar has more than a decade of volunteer and work experience in the nonprofit sector, working on issues from public health and education to youth and workforce development. Noar holds two bachelor's degrees in political science and ethnic studies from the University of California, San Diego and a master's degree in education from Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Education & Psychology.

### **About Teach For America**

The TFA network in San Diego now numbers over 500 corps members and alumni. Our teachers score among the highest in the state year over year in leading their students to incredible academic growth. Since 2013, [Teach For America San Diego](#) has expanded opportunities to students and families in San Diego. Visit us on [Facebook](#).

Teach For America works in partnership with 350 urban and rural communities across the country to expand educational opportunity for children. Founded in 1990, Teach For America recruits and develops a diverse corps of outstanding leaders who make an initial two-year commitment to teach in high-need schools and become lifelong leaders in the effort to end educational inequity. Today, Teach For America is a force of over 64,000 alumni and corps members working in over 9,000 schools nationwide in pursuit of profound systemic change. From classrooms to districts to state houses across America, they are reimagining education to realize the day when every child has an equal opportunity to learn, lead, thrive, and co-create a future filled with possibility. Teach For America is a proud member of the AmeriCorps national service network. For more information, visit [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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