



Dear Supporters,

We are thrilled to welcome Erika Hartman as Safe Place for Youth's new Executive Director.

Erika will bring her impressive expertise to Safe Place for Youth with 15 years of non-profit leadership supporting people experiencing homelessness and underserved youth. Recently, she served as the Chief Program Officer of the Downtown Women's Center, a Los Angeles-based homeless services organization, and previously acted as the Chief Program Officer of Allies for Every Child, a Los Angeles-based child welfare organization.

Currently, Erika serves on the board of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative board, the University of Southern California LGBTQ Alumni board, and the Homeless Policy and Research Institute's Race Equity Committee.

Through Erika's strategic vision, focus on DEI initiatives, aligned program strengths, and lens as a licensed marriage and family therapist, she will continue to champion Safe Place for Youth's mission for the Los Angeles community.

In her own words:

"I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of Safe Place for Youth, an organization that is exceptional in the thoughtfulness and care that it puts into addressing youth homelessness and impacting social inequity. As a woman of color and member of the LGBTQ community, for me, Safe Place for Youth's mission is both deeply personal and profound. I am inspired by the resilience of the youth members, and it is truly a privilege to join the incredible team at Safe Place for Youth in creating the affirming and supportive community that all young people deserve."

Erika's first day with us will be August 2nd.

We are grateful for your ongoing support for this next chapter in SPY's incredible journey.

Fondly,

Alison Hurst

Founder & Executive Director

Barbara St. Thomas

Board President