

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ROTARY CHARITIES THANKS BECKY EWING FOR 14 YEARS OF SERVICE, COMMENCES SEARCH FOR NEW CEO

TRAVERSE CITY, MI - The staff and board of Rotary Charities of Traverse City extend their heartfelt gratitude to Becky Ewing for her 14 years of service to the organization, nearly 3 years as CEO and trusting leader. Ewing plans to retire in June 2021, and the search process for a new leader has begun.

Becky stewarded Rotary Charities' transition from traditional grantmaking to a changemaking organization, supporting collaborative solutions for complex problems through two new grant categories, Systems Change Accelerator and Assets for Thriving Communities. Through her leadership, Rotary Charities has taken the evolutionary steps towards the realization that the resources it has to offer are more than just funding, and the recognition of the importance of capacity building for regional nonprofits.

"I have been fortunate to work on behalf of Rotary Charities for almost 14 years. It's been an amazing career filled with service, community and making things possible for our region. I have deep gratitude for our staff, board, partners and the community. I'm looking forward to watching the impact continue in systems change, leadership and community development," Ewing said. "Rotary Charities has a tremendous reputation for leadership and impact. We've been mindful to ensure our work is informed by philanthropic colleagues from around the country; one of the next challenges in our evolution will be to embed equity into the work we do. It aligns with our Rotary Four-Way Test of fairness and common good. The new CEO should have a passion for making things possible for others."

Ewing was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer in 2018 after the retirement of Marsha Smith, who led the organization for 25 years. Smith praised Ewing's promotion, expressing that Ewing's historical knowledge of the organization, as well as her vision for the direction of the organization made her the "right person at the right time." At the time of her promotion, Ewing indicated that she planned to retire in two to three years. A hiring committee comprised of board members of Rotary Charities and Camps & Services is conducting a national search for a new CEO, with the assistance of an HR consultant.

"Becky's tenure as CEO has been a real gift for Rotary Charities. Her organizational leadership with people and process, her caring enthusiasm for the work of Rotary Charities and its impact on our region and her wonderful disposition have made a lasting impression. She is leaving some big shoes to fill for her successor," commented Jeff Hickman, Board Chair.

With the current CEO's retirement planned for June 2021, Rotary Charities seeks a dynamic, skilled leader who can inspire, connect and mobilize others, foster a positive, productive workplace culture, and keep the organization strong, nimble, and visionary.

Applications for the position will be accepted through February 28, 2021. More details can be found at rotarycharities.org/hiring



About Rotary Charities:

Following the 1976 discovery of oil and natural gas reserves on property owned by the Traverse City Rotary Club, Rotary Charities was established to financially support organizations and non-profits in Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Kalkaska and Antrim counties. Since that time, more than \$63 million in grants have been awarded. Today, Rotary Charities is known for known for embracing innovation in service of tackling complex problems and creating accessible assets for all, in support of its vision of a region that is fair, thriving and resilient. In recent years, Rotary Charities has evolved from a traditional grantmaking organization to a regional changemaking organization. This requires innovative grantmaking, impact investing, and capacity building strategies, as well as effective internal structures to support the work. To learn more visit rotarycharities.org

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