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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Sari Raskin Selected for Philanthropic Sector's Premier Leadership Development Program**

January 9, 2019 (Oakton, VA) – The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia is proud to announce that Sari Raskin, Director of Grants and Community Leadership at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, has been selected to participate in the Council on Foundations 2018 Career Pathways program. This intensive, year-long leadership development program is designed to foster diverse talent and excellence among the philanthropic sector's senior executives. Participants will graduate from the program with the knowledge, experience, and professional networks needed to be more effective in their current roles and more deliberate in their contributions to the field of philanthropy more broadly, positioning them to compete successfully for senior-level foundation positions.

"I am looking forward to meeting colleagues and delving further into current and future challenges that exist in the philanthropy field. This program is very exciting because it offers the opportunity to better prepare myself as a future leader in the philanthropy sector," said Raskin.

Career Pathways equips mid-career professionals at grantmaking organizations and other non-profit institutions to lead high-performing organizations and programs in the U.S. and around the world. Since launching in 2010, 81 percent of Career Pathways alumni are working at the senior executive level in philanthropic organizations across the world.

Over the course of a year, Raskin will delve deep into major issues facing philanthropic leaders; gain unprecedented access to a vast network of CEOs, trustees, search firm executives, and national thought leaders; attend virtual and in-person career trainings across the country; and are paired with an executive coach to advise and support them along their career path.

“Career Pathways is a leadership incubator and reflects the Council’s steadfast commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in and beyond the field of philanthropy,” said Vikki Spruill, President and CEO of the Council on Foundations. “Our 2018 cohort class raises the bar on talent, drive, and vision—and we are eager to begin engaging with our cohort and for them to be able to apply their new knowledge at their home institutions and in their communities.”

The 2018 Career Pathways cohort members are:

- **Roy Agloinga** | Program Officer | Rasmuson Foundation | Anchorage, AK
- **Paul Bachleitner** | Communications Director | Northwest Area Foundation | St. Paul, MN
- **Elizabeth Cheung** | Senior Program Officer | Conrad N. Hilton Foundation | Agoura Hills, CA
- **Chris Crothers** | Senior Program Officer | Jessie Ball duPont Fund | Jacksonville, FL
- **Victoria Grasso** | Senior Program Officer | Cooper Foundation | Lincoln, NE
- **Sarah Jankowski** | President, Viking Global Foundation | New York, NY
- **Andrea Landes** | Vice President | Grants Management, The Commonwealth Fund | New York, NY
- **Lindsey Linzer** | Director of Grants Administration | The Miami Foundation | Miami, FL
- **Courtney Lopez** | Director of Development | Santa Fe Community Foundation | Santa Fe, NM
- **Michelle Lugalía-Hollon** | Director, Program Initiatives | San Antonio Area Foundation | San Antonio, TX
- **Rosita Najmi** | Program Officer | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | Seattle, WA
- **Vivian Oden** | Director of Donor Services | Hampton Roads Community Foundation | Norfolk, VA
- **Lauren Padilla-Valverde** | Senior Program Manager | The California Endowment | Oakland, CA
- **Steven Pearson** | Manager | IBM Corporate Citizenship, IBM | Durham, NC
- **Sari Raskin** | Director of Grants and Community Leadership | The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia | Oakton, VA
- **Allison Sparks** | Executive Director | The Masto Foundation | San Francisco, CA
- **LaDawn Sullivan** | Director of Leadership & Equity | The Denver Foundation | Denver, CO
- **Jidan Terry-Koon** | Program Officer | The San Francisco Foundation | Oakland, CA
- **Punita Thurman** | Program Director | The Skillman Foundation | Detroit, MI
- **Mandy Tuong** | Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary | InFaith Community Foundation | Minneapolis, MN
- **Monica Varela** | Director of Impact, Metrics and Evaluation | The Clinton Foundation | Bogota, Colombia
- **Laura Washington** | Director of Communications | The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation | New York, NY
- **Irene Wong** | Director of Local Grantmaking | The David and Lucile Packard Foundation | Los Altos, CA
- **Melinda Wright** | Program Officer | Walton Family Foundation | Raleigh, NC

Career Pathways will convene four times across the country in 2018 and be hosted by several leading philanthropic institutions, including the CDC Foundation (January 22-24); The Skillman Foundation

(August 1-3); and The California Community Foundation (November 7-9). The spring convening will take place in conjunction with the Council's inaugural Public Policy Summit in Philadelphia April 11-13, 2018. Career Pathways is supported by The Duke Endowment, The Kresge Foundation, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. For more information about Career Pathways, visit [cof.org/CareerPathways](http://cof.org/CareerPathways).

### **About The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia**

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia grows philanthropy to respond to critical need and seed innovation in the region. Comprised of donor advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and other charitable endowments, the Community Foundation connects donors to community, and helps meet community needs with community resources.

In 2017 the Community Foundation awarded more than \$4.7 million in grants and scholarships and reported \$47 million in managed philanthropic assets.

For more information please visit us at [www.cfnova.org](http://www.cfnova.org), on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityFoundationforNOVA/>, Twitter @CFNova, and Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/communityfoundationfornova/>.

### **About the Council on Foundations**

An active philanthropic network, the Council on Foundations ([www.cof.org](http://www.cof.org)), founded in 1949, is a nonprofit leadership association of grantmaking foundations and corporations. It provides the opportunity, leadership, and tools needed by philanthropic organizations to expand, enhance and sustain their ability to advance the common good. With members from all foundation types and sizes, the Council empowers professionals in philanthropy to meet today's toughest challenges and advances a culture of charitable giving in the U.S. and globally.

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