



## **Katrina Coleman named Executive Director Of Chicago's Olive Branch Mission**

**(Chicago, March 7, 2024)**...**Katrina Coleman** has been named Executive Director of the Olive Branch Mission, the oldest continuously operating emergency and transitional housing shelter in Chicago, located in the Englewood neighborhood. She will be the Mission's first African American woman Executive Director.

Coleman most recently served as interim Executive Director of the Olive Branch Mission. Prior to that, she was its Chief Operating Officer.

"We are thrilled that Katrina will become our new Executive Director," said Jeremy Glenn, Chair of the Board at Olive Branch Mission. "She has served the mission in many critical roles for the past 20 years. We will count on her experience, deep relationships within the City of Chicago and Englewood community and devotion to our mission as she continues to guide us in best serving our clients and collaborating with our community, corporate, faith-based and government partners."

"I am honored to officially serve in the role of Executive Director," said Katrina Coleman. "My goal is to ensure we continue to serve the individuals that God has entrusted to our care with the highest level of dignity and respect, by providing comprehensive, robust services that assist in moving them to permanent housing and bolster their self-sufficiency and sustainability."

In her years serving as interim Executive Director and COO, Coleman has researched, acquired and cultivated new government, corporate, foundation and private funding prospects, and served as liaison to all funding agencies and organizations. She has also coordinated direct mail appeals and newsletters that have added more than \$500,000 to the mission's budget annually.

Coleman served on the COVID response team with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) making strategic business decisions in response to the pandemic and the organization's "Essential Business" status. She was essential in helping to create strategic protocols to safeguard employees and clients and a mitigation strategy plan for shelters and congregate settings. Coleman continues to track, analyze, advise, consult, and implement new/updated shelter guidelines in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services.

She is a member of The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Citygate CEO Leading Ladies Network, Greater West Town Community Development Project and The Connection Community Church.

A lifelong resident of Chicago, Coleman attended Westinghouse High School, received her real estate license from the Real Estate Institute, and her Society for Resource Management Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) credentials from Northwestern University School of Professional Studies. She is a current resident of Calumet Heights.

**Olive Branch Mission** is the oldest rescue mission in the City of Chicago, dating back to 1867 when it was founded by women members of the Free Methodist Church. Serving more than 2,000 clients yearly, the mission provides opportunities for individuals, family and communities in recovery, restoration, reinstatement and re-entry into productive lives through its two Chicago programs in the Englewood neighborhood, one in the Roseland/Pullman neighborhood and an additional program in Africa. Its valued partners include the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

For more information on Katrina Coleman or on the Olive Branch Mission see <https://www.obmission.org/>.

### **Olive Branch Mission**

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