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# DC VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT

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## Announcement from our Co-Presidents

June 13, 2019

Dear Friends of DCVLP,

We want to bring you news about some important changes in our organization. **We are delighted to announce that Sara Tennen, who has served as Deputy Director for the past year, will become our Executive Director effective July 1, 2019.** Sara will be replacing co-founder Karen Marcou, who has been an exemplary leader of our organization for the past twelve years. Karen will remain actively engaged with DCVLP as a member of the Board of Directors.

Karen is making this transition after twelve years of leading DCVLP to become one of the premier organizations providing pro bono legal services to victims of domestic violence and at-risk children in Washington, DC. She and her co-founders recognized that a lack of malpractice insurance and proper training and supervision was an obstacle to many volunteer attorneys, and they created a legal organization that serves as a virtual law firm for attorneys providing these crucial legal services. Under Karen's leadership, DCVLP has helped over **5,000** victims of domestic violence and at-risk children and now has a roster of over **2,500** volunteers. Additionally, the program has grown significantly to include three legal clinics throughout the city where attorneys provide advice to individuals who are considering their legal options to escape difficult circumstances.

Sara Tennen is the perfect successor to carry on the evolution and growth of DCVLP as its new Executive Director. As Deputy Director, Sara has demonstrated that she has all the necessary skills and leadership qualities to lead DCVLP. Sara has extensive experience in the family law and domestic violence community: she has prosecuted sex crimes against children with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office in Arizona, privately practiced family law in Arizona and Maryland, and has worked at DCVLP in a supervisory capacity in each of the organization's practice areas. Further, Sara's stature in DC Family Court ensures that DCVLP will maintain its important position as a critical defender of the rights of victims and children in dire circumstances. We are also grateful for DCVLP's incredibly talented and experienced staff, who will support Sara through this transition and help DCVLP to continue on its trajectory of growth.

The DCVLP Board congratulates Karen and Sara on their accomplishments to date and looks forward to their future contributions to our organization. We also thank you, our many supporters, as we enter this new era at DCVLP. Together we will continue providing our high-quality pro bono legal services to underserved members of our community in desperate need.

Warm regards,

*Pam Sauber & Dale Harburg*

Co-Presidents of Board of Directors