

Media Release – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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InterAct Welcomes Rhonda Raney as New Executive Director

RALEIGH, NC – InterAct is excited to announce its board of directors has selected Rhonda Raney as its new executive director. Raney will lead the day-to-day activities of InterAct in its mission of saving lives, rebuilding lives, and securing safer futures for victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Wake County .

Raney is a Virginia native and attended the College of William and Mary, in Williamsburg, VA where she received her undergraduate and law degrees. She has a long career committed to public service by engaging systems, local and state government, and non-profits to improve the lives of vulnerable individuals and communities. She is a former litigator, lobbyist and senior non-profit and government executive, including service as Deputy Secretary for the NC Department of Public Safety, Executive Director of the NC Justice Center and Assistant Executive Director of the NC Bar Association. Raney is also a NC Superior Court mediator.

"Since its inception, InterAct's services have been vital to support the dynamic needs of individuals and families impacted by domestic and sexual violence. I am excited to become the next executive director as we advance InterAct to a new level of service to those in our community who need and deserve our support. I am committed to developing and strengthening diverse and inclusive relationships both internally, and externally with our trusted community partners, to better serve victims and survivors in our community," says Raney of her new role at InterAct.

The consulting firm of moss+ross managed the nationwide search supporting the Search Committee led by InterAct's immediate past chair, Leigh Bleecker.

"Over the past year and a half, as our community continues to grapple with an ongoing pandemic and issues of racial and social justice, InterAct has seen an increase in demand of services for people experiencing domestic and sexual violence. We believe Rhonda is the exact right fit at the exact right time to lead InterAct into a new chapter of better serving victims and survivors in our community to meet these needs both now, and into the future," said Edward Schenk, chair of InterAct's board of directors. Schenk added, "An incredibly special thanks to our search firm, moss + ross, who provided exceptional, uncommon concierge service during this thoughtful process that was specific to the unique needs of InterAct."

Raney will begin her role on October 7, 2021 and replace Allison Strickland and Tasha Sullivan, who have served as interim co-executive directors since November 2020. Strickland and Sullivan will resume their roles as key leaders in the organization at InterAct.

About InterAct

As Wake County's only comprehensive service provider for victims of domestic and sexual violence, InterAct brings together eight community partners – three crisis lines, law enforcement, legal services, group and individual counseling, case management, court advocacy, and NC's first and only community-based sexual assault forensic examination center (Solace Center) – all under one roof. Visit InterAct at

www.interactofwake.org.

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