



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HALEY ASSOCIATES EXECUTIVE SEARCH LLC ANNOUNCES PLACEMENT
OF
CHRISTIANA THORNTON AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE
NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION**

MANCHESTER, NH – Haley Associates, LLC, a New Hampshire-based higher education retained executive search firm, has announced the successful placement of Christiana Thornton as President and CEO of the New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF) in Concord, NH.

Thornton will join NHHEAF on October 3, 2018. The NHHEAF Network has over 50 years of experience in helping families plan and pay for higher education. The Organizations are comprised of three independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit agencies: New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF), Granite State Management & Resources (GSM&R) and New Hampshire Higher Education Loan Corporation (NHHELCO). The interconnectedness of these organizations provides students and schools with expertise in all aspects of the student loan industry. The NHHEAF Network Organizations aspires to be recognized as one of the nation's most capable, trusted, and innovative leaders in educational loan services that enhance the promotion, advancement, and support of higher education.

Prior to her appointment at the NHHEAF Network, Thornton served as President of the New Hampshire Bankers Association, a statewide, not-for-profit trade association representing and serving all banking institutions in New Hampshire. Previously, she served as a legislative aide to Senator John E. Sununu.

Thornton succeeds CEO René A. Drouin who has worked at NHHEAF for forty years and announced his retirement last spring. Drouin joined the New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation Network in 1978 and was named to the position of President and CEO in 1997.

“I look forward to joining the NHHEAF Network and to continuing the important and successful work of René Drouin.” said Thornton. “For over half a century NHHEAF has worked hard to ensure that students have the financial resources and knowledge they need to attend college. NHHEAF has a long and trusted history, and I am honored to have been selected to lead this important organization.” Thornton holds a bachelor’s degree from Rollins College and resides in Pembroke with her husband, Jeff, and two children.

Dr. Katherine Haley, founder and principal of Haley Associates LLC, conducted the search on behalf of the NHHEAF Network. “I was delighted to conduct this comprehensive and national search on behalf of the NHEAFF Networks and to assist the search committee in filling this critical position.” said Haley. “The search committee was particularly impressed by Christiana Thornton’s talent and experience--and I know she will be a dynamic new leader for The NHHEAF Networks.”

About Haley Associates, LLC

Haley Associates is a higher education consulting and executive search firm dedicated to providing personalized, high quality services focused on the unique needs of the institutions and leaders it serves. By design a boutique firm, Haley Associates is committed to working on a limited number of consulting engagements and searches in order to deliver on its commitment to focus on the client and the success of each search.

Katherine Haley, Ph.D. founded Haley Associates, LLC after serving for seven years as a senior consultant at the national executive search firm, Witt/Kiefer. Kate is the former President of Gettysburg College (PA) and Whittier College (CA). As an executive search consultant, she has conducted numerous higher education leadership searches for institutions across the country—including over 40 presidential/CEO searches. She advises colleges and universities on leadership succession, governance and effective board performance. More about Haley Associates can be found at: <http://www.haleyassociates.net>

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