PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ritter Center Welcomes New Board Members, Esmeralda Garcia and Brooks Nguyen

San Rafael, CA – Ritter Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing and resolving homelessness and improving health and well-being for individuals and families in Marin County, proudly announces the appointment of **Esmeralda Garcia** and **Brooks Nguyen** to its Board of Directors.

Esmeralda Garcia brings experience in nonprofit program leadership, community services, and advocacy in Marin County. She currently serves as Director of Programs at the Multicultural Center of Marin, where she oversees the implementation and evaluation of program areas and works with organizational leadership, the Board, and staff to align programs with strategic priorities. Previously, she held program leadership roles at Community Action Marin.

Earlier in her career, Esmeralda served as a Patients' Rights Advocate, providing advocacy services for mental health clients and serving as a liaison with hospitals, the judicial system, and community stakeholders. She holds an MBA in Healthcare Administration/Management and a B.A. in Business Administration from Dominican University of California, where she graduated magna cum laude. She currently serves as Board President of Mental Health Advocates of Marin.

Brooks Nguyen brings experience in accounting, financial management, business operations, and entrepreneurship. She currently serves as Accounting Manager – Director of Operations at The Food Connector in San Rafael, where she oversees financial operations including accounts payable and receivable, financial statements, bank reconciliations, payroll, and financial analysis.

Brooks previously worked as a consultant advising start-up food producers on business strategy, financial analysis, sales, and growth. She also founded Dragonfly Cakes, which she grew to $2.5 million in annual revenue before its sale in 2017. From 2018 to 2024, she served as an elected trustee on the Miller Creek School District Board, with responsibilities including oversight of a $26 million budget.

Ritter Center looks forward to working with both new board members as the organization continues to provide critical services, including primary healthcare, behavioral healthcare, housing assistance, and case management for Marin residents in need.

Learn more at RitterCenter.org