



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Julie Showers, Communications Manager

jshowers@blanchethouse.org

503-241-4340

Blanchet House Welcomes Three New Board Members

Portland (Sept. 8, 2020)—Blanchet House is excited to welcome three talented and compassionate individuals to its volunteer board of directors.

Dominique Forrest an educator at St. Andrew Nativity School in NE Portland, teaches math and science. He's driving efforts to provide equitable access to education and opportunities for students of low-income families. He's a graduate of Jesuit High School, Linfield College, and the University of Portland.

"I'm a product of Portland and alumnus of Nativity," Dominique Forrest says. "I love this city and the people it produces. I'm honored to join and partner with the Blanchet board to continue to move our city forward."

Jonathan "JJ" Gonzales is a partner at Gonzales, Gonzales & Gonzales and practices immigration law. JJ is a graduate of Jesuit High School, Pomona College, and Notre Dame Law School. He is a member of St. Cecilia's parish in Beaverton.

Mary Ann Walker is the Director of Operations and Health Care Provider Support for Vivacare. She's on the St. Thomas More CYO Board and served as Athletic Director there for nine years. She's the President of Friends of Lincoln High School. Mary Ann is a graduate of Santa Clara University.

"I started serving at Blanchet when my younger children were participating in service through school," says Mary Ann Walker. "Blanchet spoke to me loud and clear with it's no barrier to care mission. I see every person as a human, a child of god, equal, and deserving."

The new board members bring tremendous leadership, insight, and value to Blanchet House.

Blanchet House of Hospitality is a nonprofit organization serving the communities of Multnomah and Yamhill counties since 1952. They offer meals and clothing to people experiencing homelessness and food insecurity along with life-saving transitional housing programs.

To learn more, visit www.BlanchetHouse.org/our-team.