



Hattie Larlham Foundation

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Press Release

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Local Leaders Appointed to Hattie Larlham Foundation Board

MANTUA, OH – The Hattie Larlham Foundation Board of Directors recently welcomed two local business leaders to its membership. Claudia Amrhein, general manager of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA), and Julieann Brandle, President and founder of Metis Construction Services, Inc., were appointed to the Hattie Larlham Foundation (HLF) Board of Directors on Wednesday, March 24 and will each hold a three-year term.

"We are privileged to welcome Claudia and Julie," said HLF Board President Bruce Hearey. "Both bring strong leadership, a commitment to community, and fiscal responsibility to our organization. These will be invaluable assets as we continue to expand our mission and grow to meet the needs of the children and families we serve."

Claudia Amrhein first joined PARTA in 2004 as the director of human resources. She has served at the organization's general manager since 2014. Claudia is a graduate of Kent State University, where she earned both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees. She also maintains two professional human resources certifications. In addition to her board membership with the Hattie Larlham Foundation, Claudia holds positions on local and state-wide boards, including Ohio Public Transit Association, Ohio Transit Risk Pool, NEORide Council of Governments, Portage County Transportation Improvement District, Ohio Health Transit Pool, Children's Advocacy Center of Portage County and Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study. Claudia and her husband Jack live in Kent and are the parents of two adult sons.

Julieann Brandle founded Metis Construction Services, LLC in Kent in 2009. Metis is a NWBOC- certified female owned and operated commercial general contractor offering renovation, ground-up, and facility maintenance project services throughout Ohio and recently Illinois and Pennsylvania. Julieann earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green State University. She has been a licensed Realtor since 1995 and has worked with Stouffer Realty since 2002. In addition to her recent appointment to the HLF Board of Directors, Julieann is also an active member of CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) Akron, as well as the Rebuilding Together Portage County Advisory Council. Additionally, she holds roles with Greater Akron Chamber, Akron Urban League, Rotary Club of Akron, and Rotary District 6630.

The Hattie Larlham Foundation Board of Directors is led by President Bruce Hearey, Esq., Shareholder, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.; and Vice President Ronald Kotkowski, co-owner, Lakeside Sand and Gravel. A full listing of the Hattie Larlham Foundation and Hattie Larlham Boards of Directors can be found at www.hattielarlham.org.

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About Hattie Larlham

Headquartered in rural Mantua on the same property where founder Hattie Gadd Larlham first began caring for babies and children in the family's home, Hattie Larlham today provides programs and services to approximately 1,600 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities across Ohio. The Hattie Larlham Foundation raises philanthropic support to advance the mission of Hattie Larlham, and is responsible for the agency's communications strategy. For more information, visit www.hattielarlham.org.