

PRESS RELEASE
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JANUARY REALISTA JOINS DOORWAYS' BOARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – This week, DOORWAYS Board of Directors added January Realista, Senior Director of Strategic Planning for Express Scripts, to their cause. DOORWAYS Interfaith Housing works to end homelessness for more than 2,000 men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS. Its focus is driven by the research that shows that housing is healthcare in both assisting those already infected with HIV and in prevention of the transmission of this life-threatening virus. Realista's background includes strategy development, financial and market analysis, product, project management and technology. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration on Information Sciences at the University of Florida and her MBA from the University of Missouri—St. Louis.

Originally from the Philippines, she is focused on healthcare and endeavors that enrich the community, food, and the arts. Her community leadership experiences include Board of Directors roles at Institute for Family Medicine in St. Louis and Girl Scouts of Citrus Council in Central Florida. "I am thrilled to join the DOORWAYS Board as I have admired their works for a few years now. It combines my passion for health and increasing diversity awareness," Realista said.

Realista first became involved with DOORWAYS through its annual RED gala (learn more at www.doorwaysRED.org) and has since served on the leadership for DOORWAYS' newest volunteer and donor group, Friends In Deed. "DOORWAYS is so thankful for our Friends and the enthusiasm they show for our efforts in improved health and housing," Opal M. Jones, DOORWAYS President and CEO said. "A lack of stable housing for those living with HIV is linked to poor health indicators, more hospitalizations, greater emergency room visits, and even early death, *immediate housing placement overwhelmingly increases health and reduces AIDS mortality*. It is not too bold a statement to say our Friends are helping save lives. Realista will be a valuable asset to our Board's team."

DOORWAYS is an interfaith non-profit organization that provides housing and related supportive services to improve quality of life and health outcomes for people affected by HIV/AIDS. Through direct service delivery and the efforts of identified program partners, DOORWAYS' programs and services annually benefit 1,000 households living with HIV/AIDS in the 15-county St. Louis metropolitan area, 62 under-served counties in outstate Missouri, and another 55 under-served counties in outstate Illinois. In Saint Louis, to volunteer or to donate, please visit www.doorwayshousing.org. ###

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