

## **Catholic Social Services Chief Executive Officer steps down**

July 9, 2025

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** – Catholic Social Services Chief Executive Officer Robin Dempsey has announced her decision to step down from her role beginning Aug. 1.

“After 10 deeply meaningful years with this incredible organization, my family and I have made the decision to begin a new chapter of our lives closer to family in the Lower 48,” said Dempsey. “It has truly been the privilege of a lifetime to serve at CSS, and I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside such dedicated staff, community partners and board members in advancing the mission of this organization.”

Dempsey has served Catholic Social Services for a decade, holding positions including director of Homeless Family Services, chief programs officer, and most recently, chief executive officer.

“Robin has made a significant impact on Anchorage and the surrounding communities through her leadership,” said Kirsten Schultz, President of the CSS Board of Trustees. “She focused tirelessly on providing compassionate care for our most vulnerable neighbors, while adapting CSS services to the rapidly changing needs of the community.”

Dempsey’s leadership has been instrumental in advancing critical services and programs, strengthening support systems for vulnerable populations across Alaska. She played a pivotal role in the creation of the Complex Care shelter, the launch of the 3rd Avenue Resource and Navigation Center, and the introduction of behavioral health services to shelters—each initiative expanding access to essential services for individuals with high needs. Under her leadership, the Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services (RAIS) program experienced significant growth and transformation, positioning Catholic Social Services to respond to Alaska’s expanding role in national refugee resettlement efforts.

“These achievements represent just a fraction of what we’ve accomplished together,” Dempsey said. “What I’m most proud of is the spirit of compassion and excellence that defines this organization—and I have full confidence in the team to carry the mission of CSS forward with strength and integrity.”

The Catholic Social Services Board of Trustees will launch an immediate search for the organization’s next chief executive officer. The process will include identifying a leader who shares the values of CSS and is prepared to build on the strong foundation laid over the past decades.

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