

For Immediate Release

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Executive Leadership Transition at Anschutz Family Foundation

DENVER, April 27, 2017 – Today Board Chair and President Sue Anschutz-Rodgers announced that Executive Director Debbie Jessup is no longer able to remain with the Anschutz Family Foundation due to health concerns.

“While I joined the team nearly five years ago for what was intended to be a long-term commitment, my decision to leave came sooner than expected,” said Jessup. “I have been struggling with chronic neck and nerve pain that is exacerbated by driving and extended time at the computer. I am saddened to leave the Foundation under such circumstances.”

Anschutz-Rodgers is disappointed by Jessup’s departure but understood her decision to step down from the role.

“It is with deep regret that I accept Debbie’s resignation,” said Anschutz-Rodgers. “Debbie has been an instrumental member of the Foundation team since 2012. Her wonderful work and leadership has had a positive impact not only on the Foundation, but the many nonprofits she’s worked with across the state.”

Sue Anschutz-Rodgers also announced that Abel Wurmnest will succeed Jessup as the new executive director. Wurmnest has been a program officer at the Foundation since 2011 and will be only the fourth executive director in the Anschutz Family Foundation’s 35-year history.

“After thoughtful consideration, the decision to promote Abel to executive director came without question,” said Anschutz-Rodgers. “He has shown his proven commitment to the Foundation and brings not only thoughtful leadership, but invaluable experience and knowledge of the philanthropic community and nonprofit sector.”



In addition to the executive leadership transition, Kumella Aiu has been promoted to a senior program officer role within the Foundation. In this capacity, Aiu will be responsible for the supervision of other program staff in addition to reviewing and evaluating grant proposals and

implementing in-house projects. For more than five years, she has served as a program officer at the Foundation.

About the Anschutz Family Foundation

The [Anschutz Family Foundation](http://anschutzfamilyfoundation.org) supports rural and urban Colorado nonprofit organizations that assist people to help themselves while nurturing and preserving their self-respect. It encourages endeavors that strengthen families and communities and advance individuals to become productive and responsible citizens. For more information, visit anschutzfamilyfoundation.org.

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