



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, March 30, 2026
FURTHER INFORMATION: Kate Munzinger (585) 750-4345

OPEN DOOR MISSION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS NAME NEW CEO

*Anna Valeria steps into new role at Livingston Associates as head of new division;
longtime ODM employee and Vice President of Operations,
Robert Williams, to step into CEO role*

Robert Williams, the current Vice President of Operations at Open Door Mission, will replace CEO Anna Valeria effective April 3rd. Valeria began working at Open Door Mission in 2014 and has served as CEO since 2017.

In her time of service at the Open Door Mission, Valeria was integral in bringing the Mission to the table in the community, through chairing the area's Homeless Service Network, representing the non-government funded and faith-based agencies on the Continuum of Care Board, and by connecting with and advocating for the Mission with local, state, and federal elected officials. Under Valeria's leadership, the Mission has created a program for homeless families, added emergency beds for homeless women, participated in its first community-based HUD program, completed a development project in downtown Rochester which created 24 affordable housing units for homeless individuals, and began the groundwork for Rochester's first Homeless Residential Facility. She also served as the past Chair of the Board for the Citygate Network - a national coalition of gospel rescue missions.

Valeria will be joining Livingston Associates as the President of its new division of non-profit strategic leadership consulting, "Livingston Impact Associates." Livingston Associates is a specialized business infrastructure firm providing comprehensive support services including HR, accounting, IT, and strategic planning. LA focuses on tailored operational solutions for clients in the construction and non-profit sectors. Valeria will also be hosting a new monthly radio show on WYSL 1040, entitled "More to Say," focused on difficult to address political, cultural, and spiritual topics.

Valeria will remain a beloved part of the Open Door Mission family and the leadership team as a member of the Board of Directors.

Valeria said "Serving as the CEO of Open Door Mission has been one of the most fulfilling roles of my life. I have been honored to lead ODM through a time of rapid growth and I look forward to my continued service on its Board of Directors."

The Chairman of Open Door Mission's Board of Directors, Vivek Thiagarajan, said "We are so thankful for Anna's service to Open Door Mission. As the CEO, she led us through a transformation to continue to grow the footprint and services of the mission throughout the community. We are grateful that she will be continuing to support us on her next chapter as she joins the Board of Directors."

Livingston Associates President, Tony DiTucci, said "We are thrilled to have Anna as the President of Livingston Impact Advisors, bringing a proven track record of impact and innovation from her successful tenure at Open Door Mission. Her deep experience and passion for mission-driven work will strengthen our not-for-profit consulting division and help expand our ability to serve and uplift organizations across our community."

Williams will officially take the helm at Open Door Mission on Friday, April 3rd. As Vice President of Operations, Williams was charged with overseeing space optimization, property management, and the creation of an environmentally-friendly and conducive workspace. Williams is known as a collaborative, servant-leader, who focuses on practical, people-centered solutions. Driven by the belief that "we are our Brother's keeper", he prioritizes stewardship, teamwork, and sustainable operations.

Williams, a graduate of the University of Maryland, relocated to Rochester in 2007. After graduating from Rochester Adult & Teen Challenge in 2012, he began his tenure at Open Door Mission as a Food Services Coordinator. Williams quickly earned the respect of co-workers, board members and ODM guests and advanced quickly into various ODM leadership roles.

Williams said "Following Anna as CEO is a humbling honor. My commitment is to carry forward Open Door Mission's Christ-centered mission while building on the strong foundation she and the community has laid so that we can continue to offer real hope and lasting change to our homeless neighbors."

Thiagarajan added "The Board of Directors is ecstatic about its next chapter where Robert Williams will assume the role of CEO. Robert is uniquely gifted for this role. He is a demonstrated leader, a faithful community servant, and is highly respected by Open Door Mission's employees and guests. We could not be happier for both him and us as we get to work together to build the future and continue to further the mission of the Open Door Mission."

Open Door Mission is a Christian based rescue organization that has been addressing the needs of homelessness, emergency food and addiction recovery in the Rochester community since 1952. ODM provides shelter, food, guidance and a path forward to men and women when they are at their most vulnerable.

For more information, please contact Kate Munzinger at kmunzinger@opendoormission.com.