



## News Release

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### Family Matters of Greater Washington Names New Chairman, President and CEO

(Washington, DC – May 1, 2019) – The Board of Directors of Family Matters of Greater Washington (FMGW) announced today that it has named **Christopher S. Pugsley** as its Chairman of the Board, and are removing the “interim” tag from the currently-serving Interim President and CEO **Thomas L. Johnson**. These moves are effective immediately.

Chris Pugsley, Principal of the law firm Thompson and Pugsley, PLLC, focuses his legal and political practice on environmental and energy issues, as well as government contracting, regulation and constitutional issues. Mr. Pugsley’s environmental practice consists of statutory and regulatory analyses; development of new policies; and the conduct of administrative litigation regarding the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and state-based issues. Mr. Pugsley specifically works with the National Mining Association, the Food Irradiation Processing Alliance, the Gamma Industry Processing Alliance, and other NRC/Agreement State licensees on issues of concurrent federal/state regulation. Mr. Pugsley received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics from Washington and Lee University and his Juris Doctor degree from The George Washington University School of Law. “I am absolutely honored to take on this leadership role with such a wonderful organization,” explains Mr. Pugsley, who has served on the Family Matters’ Board of Directors since 2016.

In addition, Thomas L. Johnson transitions to filling the role of President and CEO for Family Matters in a permanent capacity.

“Thomas is the right man for the job at this important time for the organization, as we transfer from our historical role as a social services provider to a regional healthcare provider,” explains past FMGW Board Chair James Eisenmann.

“Thomas understands the ins and outs of the organization, and he has displayed tremendous vision for the organization’s future.”

Mr. Johnson stepped down in November 2017 from his seven-year term as Chair of the Board of Directors to serve as the Interim CEO. Mr. Johnson was a Senior Advisor at Gorman Health Group. In this role, he offered guidance on compliance issues involving Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. He also spent nine years serving as President and CEO of Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA) from 2004 to 2013. MHPA is a Washington, DC-based trade association representing Medicaid health plans. In this role, he represented the interests of the Medicaid health plan industry before Congress, the Executive Branch, and state governments. Thomas was also actively involved with getting Medicaid expansion included in the Affordable Care Act, and led a coalition of national provider groups, called the Partnership for Medicaid. During his tenure at MHPA, the organization grew in revenue by 600 percent. He also served as Founder and President of the MHPA Center for Best Practices.

Mr. Johnson currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America. Thomas has also served on other boards in the region, including the DC Association of Health Maintenance Organizations; the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Club; the DC Prisoners Legal Services Project; and the Montgomery County Arts and Humanities Council. Thomas earned his BA from Tufts University and JD from Howard University Law Center.

“It is my honor to serve this wonderful organization as we enter our 137th year,” said Mr. Johnson. “This Board has always been supportive of me, and I plan to deliver on ensuring long-term success for the organization and its contribution made to those in need of services throughout the region.”

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### **About Family Matters of Greater Washington**

Family Matters of Greater Washington, Inc. creates and delivers compassionate solutions that empower, enrich and elevate all ages. Founded in 1882, Family Matters of Greater Washington is one of the oldest, nationally accredited social service organizations in the Washington-metropolitan area and has maintained its leadership and reputation of excellence. Today, Family Matters provides assistance that impacts children, youth, families, and seniors each year.

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