

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Texas Non-Profit Adds Two Distinguished Board Members

Houston, Texas (June 28, 2022) Project Beacon, a not-for-profit neuro inclusive housing and vocational developer for adults living with intellectual or developmental disabilities, including Autism, today announced the addition of two board members.

Dr. Amy Wood. A parent of a young adult with autism and leader in the local autism community, Dr. Wood is an advocate for solutions to challenges facing families and children with autism. Amy is President and Scientific Advisor for Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT) – Houston. She previously served as a board member and faculty of the Lonestar LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities). Amy also serves as a board member for the Texas Autism Academy. She earned her Doctorate in Pharmacy from the University of North Carolina and completed her residency at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. While practicing as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at MD Anderson, she was Adjunct Clinical Professor at The University of Houston School of Pharmacy,

Dr. Annie Kennelly-Helms. Dr. Kennelly is a Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician. She will be joining Texas Children's Hospital, The Woodlands this Fall, as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine, and looks forward to building supportive relationships with Autism and I/DD care providers within the community. Dr. Kennelly received her MD from the George Washington University School of Medicine, completed her Pediatric Residency at University of Texas Southwestern, and recently completed a Fellowship in Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics at the Baylor College of Medicine.

Doctors Wood and Kennelly-Helms join Project Beacon's five original Board members; bringing their education and medical perspectives to further build out this innovative non-profit's existing expertise in the areas of law, finance, real estate and project development.

"Project Beacon's mission is to deliver a customized, sustainable residential community for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities, including Autism. More than just a place to live, the residence (and associated social and vocational programming) will be a place to thrive; an inclusive, sustainable home where residents can form friendships, develop life skills, secure jobs, and become vital and visible members of the community." - Kelly Baughman, Project Beacon President, Co-Founder

Building Safe Homes and Vibrant Futures for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders

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