

PEER HEALTH EXCHANGE

PRESS RELEASE—

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Meet Peer Health Exchange Chicago's New Executive Director Brittany Merritt

March 1, 2019—Chicago—Peer Health Exchange Chicago's Board of Directors and staff welcomed their new Executive Director Brittany Merritt to the organization. With a deep commitment to health equity for Chicago's youth, Brittany brings more than ten years of experience in business development, programs and partnerships across public and private sectors.

She most recently served as the Chief Program Officer at Umoja Student Development Corporation where she was responsible for the oversight, vision, and strategy of Umoja's program portfolio. Prior to that role she led the development, management, growth and evaluation of our robust program in partner high schools and colleges as Peer Health Exchange Chicago's Director of Program and Partnerships.

"We're thrilled to welcome Brittany back, and are so excited to enter this next phase of her leadership at Peer Health Exchange," said Osayuwere (Tina) Enagbare, Vice President of Talent and Equity. "Hiring and developing outstanding people who embody our core values at Peer Health Exchange is essential to our vision of advancing health equity and improving health outcomes for young people."

Spring 2019 ushers in ambitious goals for Peer Health Exchange Chicago. Workshops commenced at all 25 of our high school partners reaching over 3,600 young people this month.

"I am honored to continue advocating for adolescent health and wellness as Chicago Executive Director at Peer Health Exchange," said Brittany. "It is an exciting time to be here. We're poised to serve more young people than ever before, directly connecting them to the information, support and resources they need to be agents of their own health."

This year alone, Chicago will engage nearly 800 ninth grade students in tours of their local health centers. These tours help young people deepen their understanding of the content and skills taught in our workshops, and address common questions, concerns or fears they have to accessing health care in their schools or communities.

"Brittany's extensive experience makes her a natural fit to lead Chicago into a secure and successful future," said Robin Rich, Chief Shared Services Officer. "Her innovative thinking is what we need on our executive team, as we collectively strive to address the systemic gaps young people face through responsive, youth-informed health education."

About Peer Health Exchange

Peer Health Exchange's mission is to empower young people with the knowledge, skills, and resources to make healthy decisions. We do this by training college students to teach a skills-based health curriculum in under-resourced high schools across the country. Learn more at www.peerhealthexchange.org