



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Aubrey Patiño to succeed Carole McCabe as Executive Director of Avalon Housing**

Ann Arbor, Michigan – July 6, 2017 The Avalon Housing Board of Trustees is excited to announce that they have chosen Aubrey Patiño as their next Executive Director to succeed Carole McCabe in early 2018. McCabe recently announced her plans to leave her position at Avalon, where she has served as Executive Director since she co-founded the agency in 1992.

Patiño began with Avalon Housing as a MSW intern in 2004, and since then she has served in a variety of roles in both the property management and services departments before assuming her current role as Associate Director, Services. She started her career as a homelessness outreach worker at the Downtown Emergency Service Center in Seattle, Washington – a national leader in supportive housing.

Over the course of her career, Patiño has become a national leader in the Housing First movement and developed expertise in successfully serving people experiencing long-term homelessness and those with behavioral health disorders. She leads Washtenaw County’s FUSE (Frequent Users Systems Engagement) Initiative – a pilot program that links supportive housing with frequent users of emergency health systems - and has been instrumental in the county’s efforts to expand best practices in harm reduction. Patiño is a frequent presenter at national and statewide conferences and policy discussions related to housing and homelessness. She participated in the National Alliance to End Homelessness Transatlantic Practice Exchange, where she studied best practices in the UK for complex needs populations. She holds a Master’s Degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan.

“Aubrey's unwavering commitment to our clients, her vast knowledge of supportive housing policy and practice and her strong leadership skills make her an excellent choice to lead Avalon at this critical time,” says Barbara Kessler, Chair of Avalon’s Board of Trustees. “For 25 years, Avalon has been working to end homelessness. We are immensely proud of Avalon staff and the amazing work they do each day for the people we serve. We look forward to working with Aubrey and Carole to ensure a smooth transition in the coming year.”

Patiño will continue in her current position until late autumn and will overlap with McCabe for a transition period before McCabe's departure at the start of 2018.

Avalon Housing, Inc. is a nonprofit supportive housing developer, property manager and service provider created in 1992 as a long-term solution to homelessness. Avalon now provides supportive housing for more than 750 individuals and families in Washtenaw County, including 170 children, with a priority on those who have been chronically homeless and have behavioral and physical health challenges, including mental illness and substance use disorders. To learn more, visit [avalonhousing.org](http://avalonhousing.org).

Contact:

Marcia Luke-van Dijk

(734) 904-4822

[mluke-vandijk@avalonhousing.org](mailto:mluke-vandijk@avalonhousing.org)