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**Gerard Place Announces Four New Board Members**

**Buffalo, NY** – Gerard Place, a nonprofit organization that provides our community with everything from food and housing to education and employment training with the goal of transforming lives, has named Marielle Foster, Antionette McClain, Justin Renaud, CPA, and Alexis Webster to its board of directors.

**Marielle Foster** is Supervisor of Buffalo Public Schools Adult Education Division with 17 years of experience in the field of education. Throughout her career, she’s had the privilege of working with a wide range of learners and brings to the Board significant educational experiences working with out of school youth and adult learners returning to school. In every role, Marielle has been committed to creating inclusive and supportive learning environments where every learner feels valued and empowered to succeed.

**Antionette McClain** is an experienced office administrator who most recently served as the Mobile Market Procurement Coordinator at Massachusetts Avenue Project. Prior to that she worked at Gold Wynn and Myles R. Firey & Co., Inc. Antionette brings with her to the Board a deep knowledge of effectively providing food to those in need in our community and her detail-oriented organization skills. She also volunteers her time with numerous other community organizations.

**Justin Renaud, CPA** is a Senior Manager at Dopkins & Company, LLP. He started at the company as intern a decade ago and was hired full-time when he graduated. As part of the Assurance Services team, Justin provides in-depth experience when working with clients to analyze their accounts, prepare financial statements and also provides audits and reviews. In addition to his community service work, Justin is a member of multiple Certified Public Accountant professional groups.

**Alexis Webster** is the Major Gifts Officers at Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy. Prior to that she was the Community Relations Coordinator at Gerard Place. Alexis has first-hand knowledge of the critical mission of Gerard Place and the important role it plays in the community. She is a Leadership Buffalo Rising Leaders 2021 graduate and a member of the Karen Lee Spaulding Oishei Leaders of Color.

Officers of the Gerard Place Board of Directors for 2024 are: Mary Lorianne Tylczynski, CSSF, Chairperson; Edith Wyss, OSF, Vice Chairperson; Amy F. Bradley, CPA, Treasurer; Bonita Slimko, Secretary.

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**About Gerard Place:**

Founded in 2000 on the grounds of the former St. Gerard’s Parish, located in the Bailey-Delavan

neighborhood of Buffalo, Gerard Place is a nonprofit organization that empowers those in need by providing the tools, support and safe haven needed on a journey to achieve life goals. Understanding that the needs in our community are constantly changing, Gerard Place seeks to be a place where the door to opportunity is always open to people moving forward. Learn more at [www.GerardPlace.org](http://www.GerardPlace.org).