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America Needs You Announces New CEO – Marianna Tu

New York, New York – March 21, 2018 – [America Needs You \(ANY\)](#) today announced that after serving as ANY’s Chief Executive Officer for five years, and prior to that, four years as a founding Board member, Kimberly Harris is moving to Washington, D.C. and stepping down from her role as CEO. ANY’s National Board has appointed Marianna Tu as the new CEO. Ms. Harris will remain at ANY until June 1st to oversee the transition; Ms. Tu will officially assume the role on April 1st.

ANY is a national nonprofit organization that fights for economic mobility for first-generation college students through transformative mentorship and intensive career development. Over the last five years, ANY has grown from a local program to a national organization, with sites in New York, New Jersey, Illinois and California. In 2016, ANY launched a strategic plan to maximize its impact through continued geographic expansion and a college partnership model.

“I am filled with gratitude as I embark on my new journey in the nation’s capital,” said Ms. Harris. “Together, we have built an innovative and powerful program for our amazing students, which is well-positioned for scale across the country. I would like to thank my superheroes, our incredible staff, for the great work they do each day to fight for our Fellows. I have had the honor of working closely with Marianna for the last five years and I know that she will take ANY to new heights. I am thrilled for Marianna and for ANY.”

Ms. Tu’s appointment marks a new chapter for the organization, and an opportunity for continued growth and impact.

“Marianna has been a leader in our organization for the last six years and instrumental in helping ANY reach hundreds of first-generation college students,” said Aditya Sanghvi, chairman of the National Board. “We believe she is the perfect leader to bring this organization to a new level in its growth.”

Ms. Tu started at ANY in 2011 as a one-on-one Mentor Coach. She joined the staff in 2012 to focus on scale initiatives and quickly grew within the organization to serve as ANY's Chief Program Officer in 2013 and Chief Operating Officer in 2015, leading programs, operations, and growth.

"I joined ANY after seeing first-hand the work it does with low-income first-generation college students. One of my proudest moments was seeing my Fellow attend and thrive in medical school," said Ms. Tu. "I came in to help bring such opportunities to Fellows around the country. Kim's leadership and vision has been instrumental to ANY's expansion. Now, I want to focus on implementing our strategic plan – tripling the number of Fellows we serve and expanding our alumni programming, as well as deepening relationships in our existing markets. Our students are exactly the type of leaders that America needs right now."

Mr. Sanghvi said ANY is poised for significant growth in the coming years.

"My hope is that Marianna can help take us to a day in which we are helping thousands of Fellows around the country, while our network of alumni – those who have achieved their dreams – are creating opportunities for low-income first-generation college students," he said.

Robert Reffkin, the founder of the organization, is confident in Ms. Tu's appointment as CEO and optimistic about ANY's future.

"I started this organization nine years ago and never dreamt that we would reach so many students," said Mr. Reffkin. "It is thanks to Kim's leadership and the amazing team that we have expanded to the Midwest and West Coast, more than doubling the students that we have served in such a short period of time. It is a testament to the organization we built that we are able to promote from within, and I am thrilled that Marianna, who has been Kim's partner over the last few years, is stepping into the role of CEO. The future of ANY could not be brighter."

About Marianna Tu:

Prior to becoming COO at ANY, Marianna Tu was its Chief Program Officer. Before joining ANY, she served as New York Executive Director of Peer Health Exchange, a national health education nonprofit serving low-income teenagers. She was responsible for developing, managing, and evaluating the PHE New York program, raising funds, and managing the local staff and board. Under her leadership, the program achieved its first fundraising surplus and grew by nearly 50% to reach 5,000 teens.

Ms. Tu also worked as an Associate Director at an international philanthropy consulting firm. Her clients included global health financing institutions, grassroots organizations, and national grant-making foundations. Ms. Tu has spent significant time in Asia, serving as China Program Director for the international nonprofit Learning Enterprises and volunteering with Pediatric HIV/AIDS Treatment Support (PATS) based in Anhui, China. She graduated cum laude from Harvard College with

a B.A. in English and American Literature and Language. She is a Mentor and Area Committee Member at the Harvard Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC).

About America Needs You

ANY is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that fights for the economic mobility of ambitious, first-generation college students by providing transformative mentorship and intensive career development. On average, 94% of Fellows served by ANY graduate from college and 87% of graduates secure employment or enroll in graduate school. ANY was founded in 2009 and has served nearly 1,200 Fellows. The nonprofit operates in New York, New Jersey, Illinois and California and was a 2015 New York Community Trust Nonprofit Excellence Award winner. Visit www.americaneedsyou.org to learn more.

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