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VIVALON ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF ANNE GREY AS NEW CEO

Grey Brings 29 Years of Non-Profit Leadership Experience in Healthcare and Advocacy

Joe O'Hehir to Officially Retire on February 26, 2021 After Serving 12 Years as Vivalon's CEO

San Rafael, Calif. (January 13, 2021) – [Vivalon](http://www.vivalon.org), a San Rafael-based nonprofit that promotes the independence, well-being and quality of life for older adults and people living with disabilities, is pleased to announce the appointment of Anne Grey as Vivalon's new CEO. Grey joins Vivalon as incoming CEO, effective January 11, 2021, and officially becomes the organization's new CEO on February 15, 2021 after a 5-week active transition period. As CEO, Grey will be responsible for the strategic oversight and overall management of Vivalon and will report to Vivalon's board of directors.

Grey will replace Joe O'Hehir who announced his retirement on June 5, 2020, after leading Vivalon for 12 years. Her appointment comes after a three-year leadership transition plan implemented by O'Hehir and Vivalon's board of directors. O'Hehir will work alongside Grey until he officially steps down on February 26, 2021.

Grey's appointment is the result of an extensive search process led by consulting firm [Envision Consulting](#), who helped Vivalon's board of directors to identify a key set of skills, characteristics, and leadership style of the ideal Vivalon CEO candidate, then specifically recruited candidates who possessed those skills. Anne was the clear top choice among the 100+ candidates, possessing all the identified skills, including fiscal management, board stewardship, advocacy, a strong fundraising background, strategic planning, community engagement, and a track record for helping organizations grow.



*Anne Grey,
Vivalon's new CEO*

"Vivalon has been serving Marin County for over 66 years, so a lot of consideration went into selecting a new CEO that reflects Vivalon's values, shares our vision for the future, and can continue the momentum created by Joe O'Hehir's visionary leadership," said Dennis D. Ryan, Vivalon board president. "Anne's breadth of experience combined with her proven leadership in stewarding growth, inspiring and mentoring teams, and strong fiscal management made her a clear top choice. We are thrilled that she is joining the Vivalon family."

"It's an honor to be chosen for this role because there are such big shoes to fill, and Vivalon is at a pivotal point in its evolution," said Anne Grey, Vivalon's new CEO. "With my background in policy and advocacy, I understand how a comprehensive public health approach can effect real change, and I've seen firsthand how social interaction and proper nutrition along with access to transportation and healthcare are vitally important. I understand the challenges facing our aging population today and in the future. Now is the time to forge change. I am absolutely thrilled to be chosen to take the baton and help to continue Vivalon's legacy of caring and improving lives."

"Anne's background in healthcare, advocacy, policy and strategic leadership will help carry Vivalon to the completion of the new Healthy Aging Campus in 2022, and in the other areas of the organization's strategic growth plan," said Paul S. Castro, Vivalon board member and CEO search committee lead. "In

addition, it's in Anne's DNA to be a community connector, which will be essential in maintaining Vivalon's position as a central part of the fabric of the Marin community."

About Anne Grey

Prior to Vivalon, Grey was executive director at the Alzheimer's Association Orange County Chapter, where she rebuilt the chapter from the ground up, making it one of the leading nonprofits in Orange County. She has also served as vice president at Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, executive director at OneLegacy Foundation, national director and executive director at Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and chief operating officer at American Heart Association Western States Affiliate.

Grey holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Pepperdine University Graziadio Business School, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in international relations from the University of San Diego. In addition, Grey completed the Nonprofit Executive Leaders Program in Social Innovation at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and the Executive Women's Leadership Program at the Paul Merage School of Business at the University of California, Irvine. She was recently named one of Orange County's Top 100 Most Influential People by the *Orange County Register*.

Vivalon's Growth and Vision for the Future

In March of 2020, Vivalon and its nonprofit partner Eden Housing received entitlement approvals to begin building the new state of the art [Healthy Aging Campus](#). The campus will include 67 units of 100% affordable senior housing along with a new Healthy Aging and Integrated Care Clinic in downtown San Rafael. Vivalon's new Healthy Aging Campus will combine traditional medical services with coordinated care, social engagement, learning opportunities, nutrition services, and a myriad of activities and programs designed to promote healthy aging. The new campus is scheduled to open in 2022.

In addition to serving the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities, Vivalon's services are expanding to include other vulnerable populations such as those dealing with chronic illness, the homeless, and low-income individuals and families on Medi-Cal. Vivalon also plans to grow beyond Marin County to serve vulnerable populations in Sonoma, Solano, and San Francisco counties.

In September of 2020, Vivalon, formerly known as Whistlestop, began operating under the new name as part of its extensive three-year organization transition process. The name Whistlestop continues to be used for Vivalon's paratransit service, which Vivalon operates in partnership with Marin Transit and Golden Gate Transit. Along with the name change, a newly designed logo was rolled out, and a new website is planned to launch in February 2021.

MEDIA PLEASE NOTE: To request an interview with Anne Grey, Dennis Ryan or Paul Castro, please contact Gus Nodal at (415) 609-3438 or gus.nodal@gmail.com.

ABOUT VIVALON

Founded in 1954 as Marin Senior Coordinating Council, Vivalon (formerly known as Whistlestop) promotes the independence, well-being and quality of life for older adults, people living with disabilities and other vulnerable populations in Marin, Sonoma, Solano and San Francisco counties. Vivalon provides a variety of essential nutrition services such as a weekly food pantry, home delivered meal programs, social connection through classes and events at its Healthy Aging Center, various outreach services, nutritious meals at its Jackson Café, and helpful information and referral services. Vivalon also provides special needs transportation services through its partnerships with Marin Access, Marin Transit and Golden Gate Transit as well as additional transportation services such as medical rides and private shuttles. In addition to serving the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities, Vivalon's services include other vulnerable populations, such as those dealing with chronic illnesses, the homeless, and low-income families on Medi-Cal. For more information about Vivalon, please visit www.vivalon.org.