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Santa Maria Community Services Announces New Board Treasurer and Managerial Hires

CINCINNATI, OH – Santa Maria Community Services, Inc. (SMCS) is pleased to announce its new board treasurer, Leah Bluemel, and new managers, Meg Thomas and Danny Burridge.



Leah Bluemel, Treasurer: Leah is a CPA and has experience in manufacturing, real estate, retail, and hospitality. She is currently the Controller for The Salyers Group, Inc. located in Covington, Kentucky. She grew up and currently resides on the west side of Cincinnati. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, reading, and baking. Leah holds a bachelor's degree in Accounting and a minor in Management Information Systems from Miami University of Ohio. She said, "I love being able to contribute to such a dynamic and collaborative organization that is helping so many people right here in Cincinnati."

Meg Corwin, Workforce Development Director: Santa Maria welcomed Meg Corwin in August 2020 as our Education Program Director and now is pleased to announce her new position as Workforce Development Director. Meg is a PhD Candidate in Multicultural and Equity Studies at The Ohio State University, a Fulbright Scholar, and has her M.S. Ed. in Community and Social Change. A former teacher, she has experience in youth education, services, and advocacy in both school and community contexts. Her scholarly publications and research focus on race, class, and place as they relate to youth language practices and identities in their schools, neighborhoods, and communities. She is excited to join Santa Maria Community Services once more, having previously served as an AmeriCorps member. Meg said, "I am very excited to be able to serve in a greater capacity through the integration of Workforce Development services and programs, and I look forward to working as a stronger, more focused team to achieve our goals in addressing education and employment barriers in our community."



Danny Burridge, Youth Development Program Director: Santa Maria is pleased to welcome Danny as the Youth Development Program Director. Danny is a teacher and PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh. His research examines how community-based organizations can be most effective in pursuing their objectives, and his teaching focuses on providing young people with the knowledge and critical thinking skills to proactively shape their own futures. In previous work, Danny was a volunteer missionary in El Salvador for six years where he designed and led a violence prevention program for at-risk youth in an urban slum. Upon returning to the US, he was the Homeless Education Coordinator in Newport, KY. He, his wife, and two small children recently moved to Price Hill. He said, "I am very excited for the opportunity to work with Santa Maria right here in my own community, and especially to serve youth by providing them with the skills and support they need to succeed."

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Santa Maria Community Services, Inc. is an independent, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization originally founded by the Sisters of Charity in 1897 and place-based in Cincinnati Ohio's Price Hill community. Santa Maria provides more than 3,000 individuals with educational tools and resources to build strong families, promote healthy residents, and foster neighborhood revitalization. Our Price Hill Family Centers provide a welcoming environment and the coaching, support, and flexibility to assist families to achieve their identified goals toward stabilization and self-sufficiency. Our mission is to be a catalyst and advocate for Greater Price Hill families to attain their educational, financial, and health goals. Our vision is for Greater Price Hill to be a vibrant, thriving, and self-sustaining community.

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