



Arab-American Family Support Center
المركز العربي الامريكى للخدمات الاجتماعية

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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**The Arab-American Family Support Center
Announces Appointment of President and Chief Executive Officer**



Brooklyn, New York- February 6, 2017- The Board of Directors of the Arab-American Family Support Center (AAFSC) announces today that effective March 6, 2017, Rawaa Nancy Albilal will assume the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of the organization.

Ms. Albilal brings to AAFSC her vast executive experience in organizational development, strategic planning, and in building community stakeholder collaboration initiatives. She has over a decade of leadership experience in community initiatives targeting vulnerable populations in the United Way movement; in government as Director of Social Services with the City of Newark's Department of Child and Family Well-Being; and philanthropy, where she has most recently served as Vice President for Development at Foundation Center, headquartered in Manhattan. Ms. Albilal hails from Lebanon and came to the United States with her family during the Lebanese civil war.

Ms. Albilal said, "I am at once humbled and excited by this opportunity to join AAFSC to walk with its Board and community stakeholders in the noble tradition of the settlement house movement. Just as we see new Americans as needing to learn and adapt to our American ways, America itself is currently undergoing significant change. The settlement house tradition, of which AAFSC is an integral part here in New York under the watchful eye of Lady Liberty, is as relevant today as ever."

Mr. Joseph Botros, Chairman of the Board of Directors said, "We are privileged and excited to have found such a talented and proven leader in Rawaa. Her multi-faceted experience and numerous accomplishments in the foundation and social services realms, coupled with her vision for the future of AAFSC, will usher in a promising new chapter for our organization and the communities we serve."

Mr. Brad Smith, President of Foundation Center, said, "Rawaa is much more than an experienced professional, she is a leader whose strength is rooted in her strong commitment to the values of justice, diversity and hard work. Foundation Center benefitted enormously from both her experience and her values and we are a better organization for it."

AAFSC's mission is empowering new immigrants with the tools they need to successfully acclimate to the world around them and become active participants in the civic and economic life of their communities. For nearly a quarter century, AAFSC has opened its doors to New York's newest Americans. The organization is the first and largest Arabic-speaking, trauma-informed social service agency in New York City. AAFSC is headquartered in Brooklyn, which is home to the third largest Arab-American population in the United States, and provides culturally and linguistically competent educational, health, and social services to members of Arab, Middle-Eastern, Muslim and South Asian (AMEMSA) immigrant communities throughout the five boroughs, serving over 6,000 clients annually.

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