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Jeff Gilbert, Partnership & Project Manager - MLPB
617-336-7500 x461
jgilbert@mlpb.health

MLPB PREPARING FOR NEW LEADERSHIP AS CEO SAMANTHA MORTON TO STEP DOWN AFTER A DECADE OF REMARKABLE INNOVATION

Boston, MA: Samantha Morton is stepping down as MLPB's CEO this year, a decision she has made in connection with new elder caregiving responsibilities. During her tenure, MLPB's capacity-building reach in Massachusetts and Rhode Island has broadened and deepened through its *team-facing legal partnering* innovation – equipping medically- and community-based care teams with legal information and tools that promote more effective problem-solving with the people they serve. “Samantha’s human-centeredness and astute read of the evolving healthcare ecosystem have been transformative for the organization, our partners and collaborators, and the social health field,” says **Kirsten Meisinger, former Medical Staff President and Regional Medical Director at Cambridge Health Alliance** and MLPB Advisory Board member. “Our partnership with MLPB, under Samantha’s visionary and enthusiastic leadership, has helped us to expand our social health strategy and programming,” notes **Kim Prendergast, Senior Director, Social Health – Community Care Cooperative**.

MLPB is the pioneer of team-facing legal partnering, an evidence-based operating model shift from direct legal representation to prevention-oriented capacity-building that [has generated measurable improvements in families’ social and legal health and wellbeing](#). Under Morton’s leadership over the last decade, MLPB partnerships grew five-fold, from 6 partners in 2012 to 30+ in 2022. “Samantha’s conceptual contributions to the field of social health – of which medical-legal partnership is one strategy – are staggering,” observes **MLPB’s Law & Policy Director Jeannine Casselman**. “With Samantha at the helm, MLPB has openly asked the hard questions about whether intentions and interventions align with desired levels of impact and transparency.”

Over the last 10 years, the team at MLPB also has nurtured several national initiatives geared to transforming systems impacting the lives and dignity of families with young children. Key partners and collaborators in [advancing legal partnering in the early childhood context](#) include Children’s HealthWatch and the Vital Village Network (both based at Boston Medical Center), the Center for the Study of Social Policy and the national DULCE Learning Network (now operating in 9 states), the Children’s Trust & Healthy Families Massachusetts, First 5 Orange County, and Smart from the Start.

MLPB believes that care should systematically account for people’s legal context and empower care teams as strengths-based, role-aligned partners in problem-solving. Through training, consultation, and technical assistance, MLPB helps teams and organizations better connect people to the resources and legal protections they seek. MLPB stands independent of any health, legal or academic institution, operating under the 501(c)(3) umbrella of TSNE

MissionWorks and serving partners in MA, RI and nationally – the latter through the DULCE Learning Network and several other initiatives.

MLPB is conducting a national search for a new leader with the assistance of **Stybel Peabody & Associates**. MLPB's Search Committee is chaired by **Melissa Nott Davis, Of Counsel at Shook, Hardy & Bacon**. Davis is chair of MLPB's Advisory Board. The organization hopes to welcome a new leader in 2022.

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