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The Catholic Foundation Names Darina O'Dowd Padian Vice President of Development; Cheryl Unis Mansour Appointed Senior Vice President of Donor Relations

Executive Change Fortifies Foundation's Future as Charitable Legacy Planning Leader



**DALLAS** – The Catholic Foundation has appointed Darina O'Dowd Padian as its new vice president of development and promoted Cheryl Unis Mansour, who has served in that position for 16 years, to senior vice president of donor relations. Both will begin their new role on September 20.

Padian most recently served as the Texas and Colorado director for The Ireland Funds, a global philanthropic network. At The Ireland Funds, O'Dowd Padian cultivated and maintained existing donor relationships and established new donor connections in those two states while raising support for nonprofit organizations in Ireland. She has 30 years of sales, hospitality and fundraising experience and holds a bachelor's degree from the Shannon College of Hotel Management in Shannon, Ireland.

In her new role, O'Dowd Padian will report to president and chief executive officer Matt Kramer. She will lead the development and marketing staff, work with current and prospective donors and provide vision and management to the development team to continue growing the assets managed by The Catholic Foundation.

Since joining The Catholic Foundation, Mansour has led the development team, cultivated deep relationships with donors and has elevated the Foundation's stature in the community resulting in tremendous success.

The Foundation currently manages more than \$285 million in assets, houses more than 490 charitable funds and trusts and has provided more than \$226 million in grants to religious, charitable and educational organizations. In her new role, Mansour will also report to Kramer and focus on providing support to existing donors.

Kramer said these leadership changes further strengthen the lay leadership of The Catholic Foundation staff and will propel the Foundation to new heights as a charitable legacy planning leader. He described O'Dowd Padian and Mansour as great examples of professionals with high moral character, deep faith and a passion to serve others.

"We have a very strong and capable board of trustees, a clear vision and a highly talented leadership team and staff that delivers outstanding support to donors. We are extremely well equipped for the future," he said.

"Darina brings a wealth of relationship management and results driven experience. Her vision, composure and compassion for serving donors accelerate our efforts and reinforce The Catholic Foundation as the ideal partner to help fulfill charitable giving goals," he added. "Cheryl has been a trusted advisor and invaluable partner for many years and has provided unparalleled strategic vision for The Catholic Foundation. Under her leadership, Cheryl has helped make it easy for donors to work with the Foundation, and we are fortunate that our donors and the community will continue to benefit from the endless relationships she has built over the years."

O'Dowd Padian, born and raised in Ireland, and her three daughters are parishioners of St. Monica Catholic Church. Her oldest daughter attends the University of Kansas, and her two younger daughters are students at Ursuline Academy of Dallas and St. Monica Catholic School. Prior to working at The Ireland Funds, Padian worked for more than a decade at the Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts in various senior management roles.

"The Catholic Foundation is on the rise, and as that success builds further for our donors and grant recipients, we have an opportunity to forge even stronger bonds with the community," said Padian. "I will bring a service-oriented mentality to everything I do by drawing upon the expertise of the staff to serve our donors in the most meaningful ways. My Catholic values align closely with The Catholic Foundation, and I am humbled to join the organization at this extraordinary time."

Mansour is the daughter of Thomas C. Unis who established The Catholic Foundation with Bishop Thomas K. Gorman and Edward R. Maher in 1955. She has 30 years of philanthropy experience including 14 years as vice president of external affairs at Communities Foundation of Texas involving public outreach and working with donors to establish funds and trusts and 16 years at The Catholic Foundation as vice president of development. She is a parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church and the mother of three grown children and eight grandchildren

"I'm looking forward to working with our donors in carrying out their charitable missions. They are passionate, generous and unselfish example of what Christ taught," said Mansour "Their beliefs are big and they truly care for others. It's a blessing to work with them and form strategies to maximize resources to build a better community."

## **About the Catholic Foundation**

The Catholic Foundation is a trusted giving vehicle for the Catholic community. Chartered in 1955, the Foundation was founded by a group of dedicated Catholic laymen with a vision that extended far

beyond the charitable needs of the moment. The Foundation has spent decades building a strong community, helping donors fulfill their charitable goals, and preserving the founders' vision and philanthropic legacy. Over time, the Foundation has provided more than \$226 million in grants to religious, charitable and educational organizations. Today, it manages approximately \$285 million in assets and houses more than 490 charitable funds and trusts. For additional information about The Catholic Foundation, call 972-661-9792 or visit <a href="https://www.catholicfoundation.com">www.catholicfoundation.com</a>.