



## **Tennyson Center Hires Micah Abram as Chief Development Officer; Bob Cooper Retires**

*For Immediate Release*

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Tennyson Center for Children (TCC) is proud to announce that **Micah Abram** has been named as the new Chief Development Officer. Abram comes to TCC with an impressive background in the charitable fundraising arena. Most recently, she has been Senior Director of Development at the University of Colorado Foundation since 2006, with notable accomplishments there including having raised \$14 million in current and deferred gifts for the College of Arts and Sciences at CU Boulder during the Creating Future Capital Campaign. Abram also has had an admirable career track in the theatre community as a former public relations manager and fundraiser for the Colorado Shakespeare Festival as well as at the Asolo Theatre Festival in Sarasota, FL.

"I couldn't be more excited about this opportunity," said Abram. "I am truly humbled by the amazing work Tennyson does every single day with children and families and, now, to be a part of this organization---well, it's just such an honor."

The hiring of Abram comes with the announcement of the retirement of outgoing Chief Development Officer and former CEO, **Bob Cooper**. Cooper's name has been somewhat synonymous with Tennyson Center for many years. He began his illustrious career with TCC roughly four decades ago, having first started as a Youth Treatment Counselor with the organization in the 1970s. In 1985, he took over the role of the center's Program Director and, in 1993, he moved into the position of Chief Executive Officer when longtime CEO Don Brewer retired. Since then, Cooper has become an esteemed expert in the field of child abuse and neglect throughout the Rocky Mountain region.

His leadership was instrumental in helping Tennyson become one of Colorado's most recognized and respected facilities for the treatment and education of abused, neglected and crisis-affected children. During Cooper's tenure, TCC was able to expand its programs and services to help children outside of the abuse and neglect spectrum with a program augmentation that included the treatment of children who had never been abused but were afflicted with a variety of mental health issues and diagnoses, making it one of the state's most unique, full-service, therapeutic facilities for children and families.

In 2012, as part of Cooper's planned retirement and succession plan, Bob stepped down as CEO and assumed the role of Chief Development Officer, following the retirement of Kathy Parker. Current CEO **Rod Witte** took over the helm at that time.

Cooper said, "My number one priority is for this to be a smooth and seamless transition here at Tennyson, maintaining and transferring the many individual and collective relationships that support our mission for children. I have often said we are in business serving children after 110 years because of one

simple fact---a wonderful community of support for our mission. I have total confidence that Micah Abram is the ideal person to continue that philosophy and carry it long into the future.”

When asked about his plans for the future, Cooper said, “My wife Judy and I are going to spend a good deal of time traveling and enjoying time with our grandchildren. As far as my involvement with Tennyson Center, don’t worry. I’m not going very far. I plan to be just as much of a supporter and advocate of TCC as I’ve been for the past 40 years...as long as I’m breathing.”

Tennyson Center, currently celebrating its 110<sup>th</sup> birthday, is Colorado’s leading treatment center and school for abused, neglected and crisis-affected children. Tennyson serves hundreds of children and more than 1,000 family members each year through a variety of treatment programs as well as its fully-accredited K-12 educational facility. More information can be found at [childabuse.org](http://childabuse.org).