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## East Coast Migrant Head Start Project Welcomes Ramona R. Reyes as Board President

**Raleigh, North Carolina** – East Coast Migrant Head Start Project (ECMHSP), one of the nation's premiere early childhood education programs for children of migrant and farmworker families, proudly announces the election of Ms. Ramona R. Reyes as the new President of the Board of Directors. Reyes, a former migrant child raised in South Texas, brings a wealth of experience and passion to her role, having benefited from Head Start educational programs during her formative years. A proud alumna of The Ohio State University, Reyes attended on a Campbell Soup scholarship designed for children of migrant farm workers laboring in Ohio.

Currently serving as the director of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center at Catholic Social Services in Columbus, Ohio, Reyes is also in her fourth term as an elected member of the Columbus Board of Education, where she holds the distinction of being the first Hispanic elected to Ohio's largest school district.

ECMHSP bids a fond farewell to the great leadership of Dr. David Conde as he steps down from his position as Board of Director President, concluding a transformative era of leadership. Simultaneously, the organization warmly welcomes new officers, including Juvencio Rocha-Peralta as Vice President, Carlos Klinger as Treasurer, and Dr. Maria Solis as Secretary.

"We extend congratulations to Ramona R. Reyes, our new Board of Directors President, along with the other new officers," said Maria C. Garza, CEO of East Coast Migrant Head Start Project. "I look forward to working with her, and her guidance as she and the Executive committee lead us to new highs."

The ECMHSP Board of Directors consists of nine exceptional individuals, each possessing expertise in key areas that directly support our mission. The newly elected officers, alongside Reyes, are poised to lead the organization to new heights. "I see myself in the children we serve and our staff taking great care of them as I was taken care of as a Texas Migrant Head Start child," said Reyes.

Decisions regarding the organization's nature and operations are made collaboratively, involving the input and expertise of the Board of Directors, the Policy Council – representing parent voice, and our dedicated East Coast Migrant Head Start Project Management Team.

*East Coast Migrant Head Start Project was established in 1974 through a grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Currently, ECMHSP operates in 43 Educational Campuses across ten states providing holistic, high-quality early childhood education services for approximately 3,000 farmworker children between 6 weeks to 6 years old. For more information, visit: <https://www.ecmhsp.org/>*

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