



# Erin Barger Chosen to Lead Food Bank of Northeast Georgia

(Athens, Georgia) One of northeast Georgia's most recognized non-profits has selected a new chief executive officer. Erin Barger has been chosen to lead the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia following a unanimous vote by the board of directors. The Chason Group was retained to lead the executive search for the Food Bank.

The announcement was made by Darrell Goodman, chair of the organization's board and director of food and beverage for the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education and Hotel.

"Erin brings the compassion, knowledge, and experience the board has been searching for in a professional to lead the Food Bank," according to Goodman. "She has a proven track record of collaboratively setting strategic goals, developing action plans, building successful teams, and most importantly listening to the needs of stakeholders. Serving as CEO of the Food Bank is a natural transition for her."

Since 2018, Barger has served as project manager for Envision Athens which is the catalyst, convener, and champion of progress in addressing the community's most pressing needs and optimizing opportunities for collaborative community development.

Barger holds a Master of Social Work degree and a Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She also graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English degree from Western Kentucky University and studied abroad through the Universidad Tecnologica de Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico.

As CEO, Barger will be accountable for the administration and management of the Food Bank's main office and warehouse in Athens and the Mountain Regional Branch located in Clayton, Georgia, which are both focused on ending hunger in Northeast Georgia. She will also be planning collaboratively with the board of directors. Barger will be the link between clients, product and distribution partners, giving community, board of directors, and the Food Bank's internal team.



#### **New Contact Information**

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“I look forward to working alongside the team of professionals who are committed to eliminating hunger in our region,” Barger said. “The Food Bank is known for delivering on its promises and serving those in need. I want to build upon the solid foundation that has been established over the years.”

Other positions Barger has held include vice president and executive director of Action Ministries in Athens; team leader, North Carolina Office on Disability and Health, FPG Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Peace Corps’ volunteer at Zunyi Medical College in China.

Barger and her husband, Brian, live in Athens with their three boys: Lazarus, Atticus, and Moses. The boys attend Oglethorpe Avenue Elementary School which is a part of the Clarke County School District.

Serving on the search committee for the Food Bank, in addition to Goodman, included: Sherry Anderson, Food Bank of Northeast Georgia; Richard Boone, founder of the Food Bank and retired from McLane Company; Myung Cogan, Synovus Bank; Adam Land, attorney; Steve Parks, retired from McLane Company; John Tebeau, Synovus Bank; and Brock Toole, Oconee County Schools.

The Chason Group specializes in executive searches for economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, foundations, and other non-profits.