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## **LOCAL CHARITY SERVING THE HOMELESS HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

MELBOURNE – The Board of Directors of Daily Bread, Inc., a Melbourne, Florida based non-profit organization that restores human dignity through food, education, and support, announced today that it has hired Kathleen N. Spears, PhD as its new executive director. Tim Muth, chairman of the board of directors and search committee reports that more than 100 applications were received for the position that had been vacant for nearly a year. “We were very fortunate to receive interest in this position from several strong candidates with exceptional credentials, ultimately, Dr. Spears’ mix of skills, experience, and passion rose to the top” Muth says.

Spears, who earned both a master’s degree in Healthcare Administration and PhD in Community Health from Texas Woman’s University, is a Pennsylvania native and will relocate to the Melbourne area in December. She will begin her role at Daily Bread on January 2, 2018. “Daily Bread is a vital component of the infrastructure supporting Brevard County’s hungry and homeless and leading them to a life of self-sufficiency. Anyone would be thrilled to lead this organization and I most certainly am. I look forward to working with the dedicated team of professionals and board of directors in strengthening and advancing the organization” said Spears.

### **About Daily Bread**

Founded in 1987, Daily Bread, Inc. began as a soup kitchen feeding dozens of people daily. Today, more than 250 individuals are fed each day at its state-of-the-art dining facility and hundreds more through its distribution of nearly 1,000,000 million pounds of food annually to Brevard County food pantries. In addition to ensuring our homeless and food insufficient neighbors have access to meals, Daily Bread provides wrap-around services aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty and engaging its clients in a life a self-sufficiency. The organization is a bona-fide 501 c3 that sustains on generous contributions from the community. To make a contribution or learn more about the organization, please visit [www.dailybreadinc.org](http://www.dailybreadinc.org).

### **About Spears**

Kathleen N. Spears, PhD has more than a decade of experience in leading non-profits, leaving each organization stronger financially and programmatically. As such, Dr. Spears has developed a reputation as a results-oriented and highly-effective non-profit executive. Her reputation has been supported with recognition having been selected by Junior Achievement as one of Indianapolis’ “Best & Brightest” in non-profit administration in 2011 and by the Indianapolis Business Journal as one of Indianapolis’ 40 Under 40 in 2012. Spears was and tapped to participate on the Superbowl Host Committee advisory board in 2012 and featured as a “Woman to Know” by the Indianapolis Star in 2013. Spears has consistently served her communities through volunteerism having been appointed by Congressman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, and appointed by Memphis Mayor AC Wharton to the Memphis Power & Light Advisory Council, where her work safeguarding seniors and low-income minorities from disproportionate rate hikes resulted in her being named one of 50 Women who Make a Difference in Memphis. Dr. Spears volunteers with School-on-Wheels and is a former member of the Horizon House Board of Directors. She currently serves on the advisory council of the Central Indiana Women's Business Center at the Indy Chamber.

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