



**BARBARA BUSH**  
HOUSTON LITERACY FOUNDATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BARBARA BUSH HOUSTON LITERACY FOUNDATION  
ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBER**

*Juliet Stipeche to lend passion and expertise to prestigious organization*

**HOUSTON** – The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation (Foundation) is pleased to announce the appointment of a new board member –Juliet Stipeche, Director of Human Services for the Houston-Galveston Area Council and Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, expanding the board to 10 members.

“We are thrilled to welcome Juliet to our esteemed Board of Directors to help advance Mom’s literacy legacy and the important mission of the Foundation across our city,” said Neil Bush, Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation Chairman. “She is a Houston native who cares deeply about education and improving the quality of life for all residents.”

Stipeche currently serves as the Director of Human Services for the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the regional organization through which local governments consider issues and cooperate in solving area wide problems. She is also a shareholder of Nagorny & Stipeche law firm. Stipeche has held a number of high-level, education-focused roles throughout her career. In 2013 she joined Rice as the Associate Director for the Richard Tapia Center for Excellence and Equity, and in February of 2016, Mayor Sylvester Turner selected her to serve as the Director of Education for the Mayor’s Office of Education (MOE), a new position and office within the mayor’s administration. While at the MOE, Stipeche developed a new office focused on educational equity and opportunity for all ages in Houston by promoting city-wide collaboration, communication, and coordination. Stipeche has worked on education and workforce issues from cradle to career developing city-wide programs from Hire Houston Youth to Be Well, Be Connected. She also served on the HISD Board of Directors on which she held several officer positions, including board president.

“Education has always been a key value and priority for me,” said Juliet Stipeche. “I am delighted to serve on the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation’s Board of Directors, as it is playing an important role in shining a light on the inequities that exist in our community and investing in solutions that will continue to help more Houstonians gain access to the skills they need to succeed in school and full participate in society and the workforce.”

Additional members of the Foundation's Board of Directors include Neil Bush, Foundation Chairman; Greg Garland, Phillips 66 Executive Chairman of the Board (Foundation Board Vice Chairman); Terri Lacy, Andrews Kurth Kenyon Partner (Foundation Secretary); Maria Bush; The Honorable Rodney Ellis, Harris County Commissioner for Precinct 1; Martha Carnes, retired Pricewaterhouse Coopers Partner; Stephen Maislin, President of the Greater Houston Community Foundation; Y. Ping Sun, Counsel at Yetterman Coleman LLP; and Pam Wells, Ph.D., retired Executive Director of Region 4 Education Service Center.

#### **About the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation**

The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation is a charitable organization formed by Neil and Maria Bush to carry forth First Lady Barbara Bush's legacy in the literacy cause and to focus deeply on breaking the intergenerational cycle of low literacy in the Bush family's hometown. Founded on Mrs. Bush's belief, "If you help a person to read, then their opportunities in life will be endless," the Barbara Bush Foundation's mission is to improve lives through the power of literacy. The Foundation serves as the champion across the Greater Houston area for the literacy cause, raising awareness for the value and importance of literacy, mobilizing volunteers and resources to build critical capacity of community-based literacy providers, and investing in local literacy programs and services that support children and families to develop strong literacy skills for success. For more information, visit [www.bushhoustonliteracy.org](http://www.bushhoustonliteracy.org) or follow us on Facebook at [@bushhoustonlit](https://www.facebook.com/bushhoustonlit) on Twitter [@bushhoustonlit](https://twitter.com/bushhoustonlit) and on Instagram [@bushhoustonlit](https://www.instagram.com/bushhoustonlit).

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