



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Literacy Access Fund Appoints Two New Members to Board of Directors**

Literacy Access Fund, a 501c3 non-profit organization whose mission is to make literacy a possibility for every child, in every community, is pleased announce the addition of two new members to its Board of Directors - Vipon Kumar, MBA and Charlotte Wade. Mr. Kumar and Ms. Wade bring many years of holding high level managerial roles and are committed to improving equitable education opportunities.

“Education is the greatest gift to our civilization. It is only the education, which is the most impactful equalizer in the world full of disparities,” said Mr. Kumar, a trusted advisor to CEOs and business owners in the Philadelphia area. His C-level and leadership roles ranged from managing P&L business units with annual revenues up to \$150M. In the past 25 years, Mr. Kumar has led four turnaround assignments, as well as scaled \$250M to 1Bn+ annual revenue businesses as an Executive Leadership Team member. He was most recently Chief Sourcing & Trading Officer at Daymon Worldwide, a Bain Capital portfolio company, where he was accountable for effectively facilitating \$10Bn+ annual sourcing spend of retailer-partners. Mr. Kumar earned his MBA degree from Thunderbird School of Global Management and he continued his education from Harvard Business School, MIT’s Sloan School of Management and Columbia Business School.

Ms. Wade brings more than 25 years of expertise in commercial real estate and corporate financial operations. In addition to serving in leadership roles for prominent family-owned, private and institutional owners, investors and real estate service providers, she has broad experience across asset classes. She has real estate experience across multiple asset classes; oversees \$5B real estate asset portfolio. Prior to joining Madison Marquette as Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Wade was SVP, Asset Manager for Rappaport, a leading privately held Washington D.C.-based retail developer and manager. “I have a sincere passion about education and believe resources should be available for every student. I am thrilled to be part of an organization that works as hard as Literacy Access Fund does to level the playing field for all students,” said Ms. Wade. She also serves on the board of the Institute of Real Estate Management’s (IREM) Washington D.C. Chapter, and is an instructor for BOMI International.

Deborah B. Sorgi, Ed.D., Founder, Chair, Director & President of Literacy Access Fund is excited to have Mr. Kumar and Ms. Wade join the organization in its mission to help children gain access to resources and build the literacy skills they need to be successful in school and in life.

For more information on Literacy Access Fund, please visit [www.literacyaccessfund.org](http://www.literacyaccessfund.org).

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**About Literacy Access Fund** (<http://www.literacyaccessfund.org/>)

The mission of Literacy Access Fund (LAF) is to make literacy a possibility for every child, in every community. The organization supports the public library as a community learning hub and a vital extension of the classroom. LAF awards grants to underfunded public libraries to increase equal access to early literacy skills for young learners. Literacy Access Fund is headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, with the ability to support public libraries across the United States.