



# LONG BEACH MLK CENTER INC.

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Lisa Hayes  
Acting Executive Director

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Frederick K. Brewington, Esq.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LONG BEACH, N.Y. (July 28, 2017) – The Long Beach Martin Luther King Center, Inc.** (MLK Center) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of **Lisa Hayes** as **Acting Executive Director**, effective July 26. Hayes succeeds **Myrnisssa Stone (Sumair)**, who has begun to transition out of the role to pursue other opportunities. Stone began as a financial manager for the agency before serving as the director for the past nine years. With more than 20 years of experience in operations, program management, and consulting at Fortune 100 organizations in the private sector, and more than a decade of nonprofit leadership experience, Ms. Hayes is well suited to provide the MLK Center with seasoned guidance toward success.

“I am pleased to welcome Lisa back to the organization,” said James Hodge, Chairman of the Board at the MLK Center. “I have worked closely with her over many years, including a similar role she held as Deputy Director during a search that brought us Ms. Stone.” Hodge adds, “We know Lisa to pinpoint core issues and be strategic in her approach. She brings a wealth of experience and expertise and we are confident she will be a tremendous asset to the MLK Center as we further our mission to serve youth, families, and individuals of the North Park community.”

Hayes is originally from Long Beach and has long-standing ties within the North Park community. In the early-mid 2000s, she served as an advisor to the NAACP Youth Council, as Long Beach Branch NAACP President, as a member of the MLK Center Board of Directors, and held a seat on the City’s Planning Advisory Board. Hayes has also supported other non-profits in the tri-state area with board development training, fundraising, event planning, grant writing, and capacity planning activities. When asked for comment, Hayes said, “I’m excited to be back with this organization in an impactful way. I am eager to work with this board to continue to build for the future.” When asked further about initial steps, she added, “Our team will leverage existing foundations and community support as momentum. The initial sprint will be all about identifying opportunities to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.”

The transition from Stone to Hayes is off to a smooth start. Stone noted, “I have complete faith in Lisa’s talent, having worked closely with her in the past. She grasps information quickly and that’s been a help. She also brings an added perspective because of her broad business background, which is vital to the changing requirements of funders who are increasingly looking for non-profit reporting and modeling to mirror big business.”

The Long Beach Martin Luther King Center, Inc.’s Board of Directors and staff would like to extend our utmost gratitude to Myrnisssa Stone for her service as Executive Director. Lisa will continue the projects Myrnisssa started during her tenure, as well as incorporate additional community feedback into the longer-term plans for the MLK Center’s future.

The Board of Directors have begun an active search for a permanent Executive Director.

*The Long Beach Martin Luther King Center, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt publicly supported 501(c)3 organization. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*