



Allston Resident Julie Kaviar Joins Walker as Communication Specialist

ALLSTON, Mass. - Walker, a non-profit leader in special education, behavioral health and residential treatment for children and youth, is pleased to announce a new addition to its staff with the recent hire of Allston resident Julie Kaviar to serve as the Communications Specialist.

A graduate of Tufts University, the New York City native with experience in marketing, public relations, social media, event planning and content development in fast-paced government, agency and non-profit environments, is eager to extend her wealth of knowledge at Walker.

In her former position as Deputy Communications Director for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Kaviar oversaw the communications needs for 15 state agencies. There, she spearheaded awareness campaigns, developed events and announcements, and managed press relations in local, statewide, and national markets. She also collaborated with communications teams across state government, and with public and private stakeholders and advocates, to enhance community partnerships and achieve visibility goals.

Prior to her involvement at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Kaviar worked in the private sector for a number of companies, including Emerging Media PR, where she managed press relations, print and online content, and social media accounts for consumer product, financial services and technology clients.

As the Communications Specialist, Kaviar will manage internal and external communication efforts across the Walker organization. Utilizing her background in health care and social services communications, Kaviar will publicize Walker's programs, promote awareness of the critical daily work of diverse staff members, and highlight the successes of children and youth served by Walker.

Kaviar looks forward to building new connections between Walker and the public. She will take a lead on developing the website and expanding Walker's social media presence, strengthening staff and student recruitment efforts, supporting advancement goals and promoting events, and crafting newsletters for Walker's community including staff, parents and donors.

"Through my experiences in the field, I will help drive Walker's expanding communication initiatives, spreading Walker's mission, message, and record of success to families and partners across the Commonwealth," says Kaviar. "The dedication and talents of the staff, students and volunteers is inspiring. It is a privilege to be part of the Walker team and help tell their stories."

About Walker

Founded in 1961, Walker is a leader in special education, behavioral health, residential treatment, hospital-diversion, professional training, and community consultation for children and youth facing complex emotional, behavioral, and learning challenges. Each year, Walker seeks to transform the lives of nearly 20,000 children and youth ages 3 to 22 in more than 60 communities across Massachusetts. Using evidence-based practices and data-driven interventions, Walker's professionals partner with these children and youth, their families, and communities to nurture hope and develop lifelong skills. Walker combines clinical and academic expertise with a commitment to strength-based, child-centered and family-driven care so that vulnerable yet resilient children and youth can build on their continuous learning while developing new confidence to achieve their potential and meet challenges. Through programming in Needham and Watertown, and partnerships with more than 44 school districts and education networks across the Commonwealth, Walker supports children and youth, their families and communities to help realize a brighter future.

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