(ଜ mena **Helping BIPOC Entrepreneurs Succeed**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pam Cannon Appointed to the Board of Directors for the Greater Twin Cities United Way

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (Apr. 3, 2023) – Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA) is proud to announce that Pamela Cannon, JD, MA, Vice President & Chief People Officer at Meda, has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Greater Twin Cities United Way (GTCUW). GTCUW is a leading provider of community giving, committed to creating a thriving community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Ms. Cannon brings 20 years of experience in human resources and organizational development, including legal compliance expertise, to the board. She holds a BS in Human Development from Vanderbilt University, a MA from Webster University, and a JD from St. Louis University School of Law.

Ms. Cannon has been appointed to serve on the Finance and Human Capital committee, which will assist in the board's financial, administrative, and operating oversight responsibilities. This includes budgets, investments, risk management, human capital, diversity, equity, and inclusion, data strategies, and information technology systems.

"Pamela Cannon's extensive experience in human resources and organizational development, combined with her legal compliance expertise, make her a valuable addition to the GTCUW board," said Dorothy Bridges, President & CEO of MEDA. "We are confident that her expertise and leadership will help further the organization's mission to create a thriving community for all."

Ms. Cannon is excited about her appointment to the GTCUW board and looks forward to contributing her skills and expertise to advance the organization's important work. "I am honored to join the Greater Twin Cities United Way board and serve on the Finance and Human Capital committee," she said. "I am committed to working with my fellow board members to help create a more equitable and inclusive community for everyone."

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About Meda (Metropolitan Economic Development Association):

Meda was founded by a group of Minnesota business leaders who saw BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) business ownership as a positive, long-term response to rising economic inequity within minority communities in our state. Meda provides business development services, access to capital and corporate and governmental market support for BIPOC entrepreneurs. Over the years, Meda has helped launch more than 500 BIPOC businesses and assisted more than 30,000 Minnesota BIPOC entrepreneurs. Meda operates a growing fund as a Community Development Fund Institution (CDFI) that provides needed capital for minority businesses to become sustainable. Meda is also the host organization for the Minneapolis Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Center, which has been recognized by the MBDA as the top-performing center four consecutive years from 2016-2019. For more information, visit meda.net.