



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Worldwide Fistula Fund Elects New Board Leadership and Expands with Experts in Clinical Social Work and Finance

Schaumburg, IL — July 10, 2025 — The Worldwide Fistula Fund (WFF), a global nonprofit dedicated to restoring the health and dignity of women affected by childbirth injuries, announces the election of new Chair and Vice Chairs, and two new members to its Board of Directors.

The newly elected Executive Committee is a diverse group of women in healthcare with global development expertise. The newly elected leaders join Dr. Holly E. Richter of AL, Secretary, and Julianna D'Angelo, CFA from WA, Treasurer.

- **Theresa Spitznagle, PT, DPT, MHW, WCS, of Manchester, MO, was elected Chair.** Tracy is a Professor in Physical Therapy and Coordinator of the Post-doctoral Physical Therapy Residency in Women's Health at Washington University.
- **Christina Machaby Lee, PT, DPT, of Orleans, MA was elected Vice Chair, Clinical.** Christina runs her own private physical therapy practice in Cape Cod, focused on pelvic health and orthopedics.
- **Misti McDonald, MPA, of Seattle, WA, was elected Vice Chair.** Misti is a global health expert, currently with the University of Washington, with over 20 years' experience leading global health programs and projects spanning a range of topics.

Joining the Board are:

- **Dr. Amechi J. Akosa, MSW, Ed.S., Ed.D. of Seattle,** is a seasoned social worker with over 20 years of experience in healthcare, education, and mental health. He is a founding member of the Long COVID Research Team at Grady and Emory hospitals in Atlanta, where he currently serves as a clinical social worker. His career spans roles in hospitals, schools, and public service agencies. Dr. Akosa holds a Doctorate in Education Leadership from Argosy University, a Master of Social Work from Clark-Atlanta University, and multiple certifications in trauma-informed care and family support.
- **Kim Speegle, CFA of Bedford Hills, NY,** brings a powerful combination of financial expertise and nonprofit leadership to the team. Her background includes roles in investment management, corporate finance, commercial lending, and nonprofit



leadership. Kim also currently serves as Vice Chair of the Board at Bedford Playhouse, a nonprofit arts cinema. Kim is a graduate of Georgetown University and holds an MBA from NYU.

“We are honored to welcome these exceptional individuals to our Board,” said Liz Crawford, Executive Director of WFF. “Their leadership and commitment to women’s health will be instrumental as we expand our impact across sub-Saharan Africa and beyond.”

The newly elected leaders and board members will support WFF’s operations and strategic initiatives, including medical treatment, prevention outreach, reintegration support, and socio-economic empowerment programs in partnership with local organizations across five African countries. For more information about the Worldwide Fistula Fund, please visit www.worldwidefistulafund.org.

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About Worldwide Fistula Fund:

Established in 1995, the Worldwide Fistula Fund's mission is to protect and restore the health and dignity of the world’s most vulnerable women by preventing and treating devastating childbirth injuries. For more information about WFF, visit www.worldwidefistulafund.org.

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