

Mary Jalonick to step down as president and CEO of The Dallas Foundation

Dallas Foundation trustees announce nationwide search to replace charitable trailblazer

DALLAS (Feb. 6, 2017) – Mary Jalonick will leave her position as president and CEO of The Dallas Foundation this year after three decades with the organization. The longtime civic leader remains committed to working for good in Dallas and beyond, and she plans to continue her longtime advocacy of quality early learning for all children.

“Mary’s contributions to The Dallas Foundation are immeasurable,” said Jim Moroney, chairman of The Dallas Foundation Board of Governors. “She is a visionary whose leadership, high ethical standards and warm, gracious demeanor have shaped our philanthropic community.”

The Dallas Foundation, the oldest community foundation in Texas, was established in 1929 to serve as a link between donors and the charitable causes of the city and county of Dallas. Jalonick was hired as the foundation’s first full-time employee in 1987, when assets in the foundation totaled close to \$15 million. At the end of 2016, the foundation’s assets exceeded \$340 million. Last year, more than \$80 million in grants were awarded to nonprofits in Dallas and beyond.

In addition to her work with The Dallas Foundation, Jalonick participates in several national initiatives for the Council on Foundations. She serves as past chair of the National Standards Action Team and a current member of the Community Foundation National Standards Advisory Committee. She has been active in the effort to develop voluntary standards for American community foundations and worked to nurture the growth of community foundations in Europe.

In November 2016, she was presented with the inaugural Early Matters Dallas award for community involvement. Jalonick was instrumental in the formation of Early Matters Dallas and is a member of its governing board. The board comprises local business and philanthropic leaders committed to ensuring that every child has a solid educational and developmental foundation so they are reading on a college-ready pace by third grade. Jalonick is chair of the organization’s policy committee.

After leaving The Dallas Foundation, Jalonick will continue her work advocating for the city’s youngest citizens.

“I feel very fortunate that my job has allowed me to follow my passions,” said Jalonick. “After 30 years connecting donors and nonprofits to help make the community a better place, I’m thrilled for the next chapter in my life.”

A native of Dallas, Jalonick graduated from Mount Vernon Junior College in Washington, DC. Over a lifetime of service, she has won numerous awards and held a variety of leadership roles. She is chair of the Texas Education Grantmakers Advocacy Consortium, a member of the Texas Education Agency’s Philanthropic Council, and a member of the Advisory Council of the RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin. In 2012, Mary received the Award for Excellence in Community Service from the Dallas Historical Society “for Outstanding Contributions in Philanthropy.”

She is also a member of the Junior League of Dallas Community Advisory Board and the Mayor’s Task Force on Poverty. She has served as president of the board of trustees of The Hockaday School, Girls’ Adventure Trails, Educational Opportunities, Inc. and the Charter 100 of Dallas.

Moroney said a national search will begin immediately to find her replacement.

About The Dallas Foundation

The Dallas Foundation, established as a community foundation in 1929, serves as a leader, catalyst and resource for philanthropy by providing donors with flexible means of making gifts and bequests, the income from which primarily supports the charitable causes of the city and county of Dallas. For more information, visit dallasfoundation.org.