



Imagine...a more peaceful world that respects difference.
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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Tanenbaum | Center for Interreligious Understanding Announces Leadership Transition

Rev. Mark E. Fowler to become Chief Executive Officer

Joyce S. Dubensky, Esq. to become CEO Emerita, Senior Strategic Advisor.

New York, NY, February 4, 2020: The Board of Directors of Tanenbaum today announced that it has unanimously chosen Rev. Mark E. Fowler to succeed Joyce S. Dubensky, Esq. as Tanenbaum's CEO effective June 1st. Joyce is stepping down after leading Tanenbaum for 18 years in a tenure marked by her devotion to Tanenbaum's mission—combating religious bigotry and building a world that respects difference.

Rev. Mark E. Fowler has worked closely with Joyce for the past 12 years, including most recently as the organization's Deputy CEO and Joyce's partner in leading Tanenbaum. During that time, Mark developed Tanenbaum's four-core programs, and is well-known for expanding them nationally and internationally.

"The Board has long recognized Mark's gifts including his strategic approach to our work," noted Justin Foa, Chair of Tanenbaum's Board of Directors. "We are delighted that he will continue Tanenbaum's tradition of providing innovative, practical and long-term solutions to religious bigotry in the years to come as our new CEO."

Under Joyce's leadership, Tanenbaum's work soared to new heights. Now recognized internationally for its work, Joyce was responsible for many ground breaking contributions to the burgeoning field of interreligious respect and understanding.

"For nearly two-decades at Tanenbaum, Joyce has worked tirelessly to advance its work and its global recognition as a thought leader in combating religious hatred," said Dr. Georgette F. Bennett, Founder and President of Tanenbaum's Board. "We are all grateful for Joyce's deep commitment to Tanenbaum and the many sacrifices she has made over the years. As founder of the organization I built in my late husband's name, I've always felt assured that Tanenbaum was in the very best of hands with Joyce at the helm."

Mr. Foa added, "In the months ahead, there will be many opportunities to express appreciation to Joyce—including honoring her at our 2020 Peace Made Possible Gala. We are grateful to Joyce and Mark for the smooth and professional transition they are leading."

For media inquiries contact Tanenbaum's Communications Manager, Dasha Tanner, at dtanner@tanenbaum.org.

Tanenbaum is a secular, non-sectarian nonprofit that systematically dismantles religious violence and hatred through Peacemakers in armed conflicts and by tackling religious bullying of students, harassment in workplaces and disparate health treatment for people based on their beliefs. More information about Tanenbaum's offerings can be found here: <https://tanenbaum.org/>

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