



MOSAIC  
FAMILY SERVICES

**FOR EXTERNAL RELEASE**  
August 4, 2021

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Walter H. Nguyen, Ph.D.

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**Mosaic Founder and Executive Director Dr. Walter Nguyen to Retire**

After Record Year of Impact, Mosaic's Future is Strong

DALLAS – With much gratitude to his vision, commitment, and leadership, Mosaic Family Services announces the retirement of Executive Director Dr. Walter Nguyen planned for early 2022.

“On behalf of the staff and board of Mosaic, I extend our thanks and the thanks of the North Texas community to Dr. Nguyen. Walter’s heart and leadership have changed the lives of thousands upon thousands of Mosaic clients,” says Board Chair Kirk DeCardenas.

As a former refugee from Vietnam, Nguyen started what would become Mosaic Family Services in 1993. Then named the East Dallas Counseling Center, the group provided support for refugees and immigrants and youth and families at risk of substance use and abuse.

In the nearly 30 years since, Walter has grown the organization to include a Multicultural Family Violence Program, the Mosaic House shelter, and a host of programs and services that support victims of human rights abuses, including domestic violence and trafficking. Mosaic is well known for its establishment of the state’s first anti-trafficking program in 2001.

“We must always speak up when we see violations of human rights. This has been my personal mission and the mission of Mosaic. I am proud of how Mosaic has empowered refugees, immigrants, and victims of human rights violations. I am proud to have led such a strong, impactful organization,” says Nguyen.

In 2005, Dr. Nguyen received the Distinguished Alumni Award from The University of Texas at Arlington - the highest honor given by UTA and the Alumni Association. In 2011, as a non-lawyer, Dr. Nguyen was nominated for and selected to receive the Liberty Bell Award by Dallas County Young Lawyers Association. He was then honored with the Liberty Bell Award by Texas Young Lawyers Association for his selfless services to the community. In 2018, he was featured in the *New American Economy* for being a successful social entrepreneur while leading Mosaic Family Services.



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In 2020 alone, Mosaic provided over 9,000 emergency nights of shelter and over 28,000 meals in the Mosaic House. Nearly 900 refugees and victims of crimes were provided case management services, free of charge, on their way to empowered independence. Additionally, over 7000 clients received emergency shelter, transitional housing, legal representation and counsel, mental health counseling, community outreach, and education services.

As Mosaic looks to the future, DeCardenas is full of hope saying, “Mosaic is well prepared to continue Dr. Nguyen’s legacy of service to our community. We are secure financially. We have ongoing, strong ties with our partners and donors. We have outstanding leadership and dedication among our staff. With our community’s continued support, we will continue to provide greater support for the most vulnerable among us.”

Mosaic has engaged the service of Thomas Moore Executive Search to conduct a national search for Dr. Nguyen’s successor.

#### About Mosaic Family Services

Mosaic Family Services transforms, empowers, and rebuilds client lives through culturally sensitive services. We are dedicated to serving survivors of human rights abuses from around the world and within our community. We create access to opportunities for our clients, empowering them toward independence.

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