

## Mitchell Named ED at HOPE



Jennifer Mitchell has been appointed Executive Director of the HOPE Program (HOPE). The HOPE Program is a work readiness training, job placement assistance and career advancement program which has empowered New York's poorest residents to transform their lives for nearly three decades. Mitchell comes to HOPE with significant experience in nonprofit management and a deep understanding of workforce development challenges and potential solutions.

“Jennifer brings remarkable knowledge and enthusiasm to this role. She is a great fit at this stage of HOPE’s growth and development, and the Board and staff look forward to working with her to further build HOPE’s outstanding reputation for effective and innovative programming,” said Board Chair Barbara Lupo. “With Jennifer at the helm, we will continue to put New Yorkers back to work.”

Long-standing Board member Dick Moore echoed this sentiment: “Jennifer’s track record of managing and growing a multi-million dollar program helping thousands of New Yorkers break the cycles of incarceration and poverty is a perfect match for HOPE’s work. We are tremendously fortunate to have Jennifer on our team.”

Prior to joining The HOPE Program, Mitchell worked at The Doe Fund (TDF) for the past 11 years, most recently as Executive Director of Programs and as a member of its executive team. Under her passionate leadership, TDF's residential transitional employment has become a leading workforce development program and a solution to homelessness, criminal recidivism, and drug addiction. Mitchell played an integral role in opening a 400-bed residence in Brooklyn and oversaw creation of a criminal justice initiative (helping men recently released from prison reenter society) as well as a program for homeless veterans (addressing acute needs of former servicemen). She also spearheaded successful replication efforts in Philadelphia and Washington D.C. Her previous roles at the Doe Fund included Director of Ready, Willing and Able (RWA), Regional Director of RWA, Director of Program Services and Evaluation, Director of Program Development, and Planning and Program Administrator.

Prior to joining The Doe Fund, Mitchell worked at America Works and at the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. She also served in the United States Peace Corps for two years, working as a Community Developer and Environmental Education Consultant in Bluefields, Nicaragua.

Mitchell received her Bachelors of Arts from Binghamton University and a Masters in Public Administration at Columbia University.

“I have long been committed to helping New Yorkers lift themselves out of poverty through employment. I am honored to join the team of The HOPE Program, which is widely known for its success in empowering clients to retain their jobs long-term, a true predictor of economic self sufficiency,” says Mitchell.