



Employment Services  
Community Services  
Contract Packaging

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **RCS Empowers, Inc. announces President's Retirement and Successor**

RCS Empowers, Inc. Board of Directors today announced that Ron Van Rooyen will retire as President on April 28, 2017. The Board of Directors has elected Martha VandeLeest, as part of a two-year succession plan, to be the company's next President, effective the end of April. VandeLeest currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer.

Van Rooyen began his work with RCS as assistant director in 1969, was named executive director in 1973, and was elected president in August of 1983. "Ron's vision has led to significant growth and success during his 47 years at RCS by leading an exceptional management team in the delivery of Employment, Community and Business Services," said Karri Neils, Board Chair. "Under his leadership, the company has established a strong business model to be financially sound and has expanded operations by orchestrating a move to a single campus of services at the Geele Avenue headquarters. While Ron will certainly be missed, I am equally as confident in the leadership of Martha VandeLeest as she assumes the role of President. Martha has served as Chief Financial Officer for the last two years. Her excellent performance in this role, vast business experience, and her financial acumen will serve RCS well in the years ahead."

Van Rooyen noted, "It has been an honor to be a part of this great organization alongside our dedicated employees, Board members, and workers. RCS Empowers, Inc. has a 61-year history of providing "state of the art" Day Services, Prevocational Services, Employment Services, Birth to Three Services and Business Services, as well as empowering individuals in Sheboygan County. I am extremely humbled and proud of our accomplishments."

VandeLeest is an alumna of Lakeland College with a degree in Accounting and the University of Wisconsin-Madison - School of Business where she completed her Executive MBA. "It is truly an honor to be elected as the next President of RCS Empowers, Inc.," said VandeLeest. "This is a remarkable organization made up of inspired employees dedicated to providing services and empowering individuals with disabilities to achieve their goals. It has been a pleasure to work with Ron over the past two years, and I look forward to leading the organization with this legacy of excellence. In the past two years, we have streamlined operations and processes and are well positioned for continued future growth with unlimited opportunities in the years to come."

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