Meet Our New President & CEO

Kim R. Ford, a native Washingtonian, is committed to community service!

Kim R. Ford began her role as the President and CEO of Martha’s Table on April 1. We could not be more excited! As a native Washingtonian, she shares our vision of a city in which every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Kim has a proven track record of success as a leader both nationally and locally. In the Obama Administration, she helped lead the implementation of the $350 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to ignite the economy. Later, as Dean at the University of the District of Columbia, she doubled enrollment and increased completion in the Division of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning in just three years.

With Kim on board, we remain inspired and energized by your own commitment to our community. Our most important work is ahead of us still. Thank you for standing with us in our mission to support strong children, strong families, and strong communities.

ACTION ALERT: Read on to learn more about Kim’s personal connection with Martha’s Table in an interview between Kim and Ellis Carr, the Chair of our Board of Directors.

YOU helped make 2018 an historic year of impact at Martha’s Table. We could not have accomplished all this without continuous support from donors like you.

53 no-cost Joyful Food Markets hosted each month at elementary schools east of the Anacostia River

1.64 million healthy meals distributed through no-cost markets

119 children supported with full-day early childhood education to prepare them to thrive in kindergarten and beyond

9 beautiful new classrooms opened for students at our new headquarters, The Commons in Southeast D.C.

45 families supported with monthly home-visits by our Family Support Specialists

13,000 no-cost shopping visits for clothing and infant necessities at Martha’s Outfitters supported families with young children

ACTION ALERT: We need your support! Help prevent summer learning loss for our students by supporting our 8-week summer enrichment program. Donate today: marthastable.org/donate.
Get to Know Kim

Ellis Carr, our board chair, led a discussion with Kim at our recent all-staff meeting. Here are excerpts from their conversation.

Ellis: Talk a little about your passions and what motivates you.

Kim: I just believe everyone should have the opportunity to achieve their dream. I really, really believe that. I’ve spent time around the country and have met people from all walks of life. And it’s frankly just not fair that everyone doesn’t get a chance.

For the past 10 years, I’ve spent a lot of time with adults in career and tech education and in correctional re-education at the University of the District of Columbia. People say these are second chance systems. But how is it a second chance system when they didn’t have a first chance? **I am so excited to be at Martha’s Table because I get to work on the front end—helping young Washingtonians to have an opportunity at success.**

Ellis: What experience in your background do you feel has most prepared you to lead MT?

Kim: As a native Washingtonian, I’ve been able to engage with residents in many ways. As Dean of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning at the UDC, I was responsible for six campuses across D.C., including three in Ward 8. This helped prepare me for MT’s neighborhood-focused work at our headquarters in Ward 8 and deep community engagement. I remember launching town halls at each of the campuses where we would listen, truly listen, to our students. We made a number of changes because of their input—from curriculum enhancements to food choices in the vending machines. **Giving people a real voice is key to walking alongside a community.**

Ellis: Tell me about your family and how they have impacted you.

Kim: My mom is my hero. She always believed I could do anything I wanted. I know that I am here because I had a quality education, exposure to all kinds of people and ideas, and a great support system. That is never lost on me. My mom had these high-powered jobs, but she just loved people, and people loved her. Growing up, we would walk through the halls of Congress, and she knew everyone—from the guards to the senators—and she spoke to everyone. **My mom saw people for people and not their circumstance.**

Ellis: What do you think is the biggest opportunity for MT?

Kim: I think our biggest opportunity is that we are grounded in the truth that neighborhood matters. I truly believe we can become a national model in neighborhood-focused initiatives. Martha’s Table will be a part of ensuring that the people who are in this community today are the ones prospering as our neighborhood prospers. **We are lucky to have strong team at MT, with such committed supporters, volunteers, and staff. Together, we can do this—strong children, strong families, strong communities!**

**ACTION ALERT:** This Mother’s Day, make a gift in your mother’s honor to support strong children and strong families in our community: marthastable.org/donate.
Your Support Ensures D.C. Children Grow Up Strong

Martha’s Table exists because every child, regardless of zip code, should have the opportunity to thrive. To support this, we provide:

- **Quality Education** starting at just six weeks of age—with a focus on literacy and social–emotional development
- **Health and Wellness** resources—with a focus on good nutrition
- **Family Engagement**—ensuring parents are both supported and supportive

**ACTION ALERT:** Meet us at The Maycroft, our new center in Northwest D.C.! Sign up today for one of our Food Prep, Baking Enthusiasts, or McKenna’s Wagon volunteer shifts: marthastable.org/volunteer.

**MT Across D.C. – Meet Us at The Maycroft!**

Our New Satellite Location in Ward 1 Opened in March

**THE COMMONS (Southeast D.C.)**

- **Early Childhood Education** program prepares children for success in pre–kindergarten and beyond
- **After-School Enrichment** program promotes literacy and social–emotional development for children in pre-K through second grade
- **Career Development** program in partnership with Urban Alliance supports high school students with workforce training and paid internships
- **Martha’s Market** in our lobby provides 1,000 community members with fresh produce and healthy pantry staples each month
- **Joyful Food Markets** ‘pop-up’ each month in elementary schools, equipping 15,000 families with access to healthy food and food education
- **Parent Engagement** and monthly home-visiting programming support strong families
- **Martha’s Outfitters** provides no-cost shopping options for clothing and baby items for families with young children

**THE MAYCROFT (Northwest D.C.)**

- **Early Childhood Education** program supports children in our long-time neighborhood
- **Martha’s Market** in our lobby provides 1,000 community members with fresh produce and healthy pantry staples each month
- **McKenna’s Wagon** food van continues to serve warm meals every night to residents experiencing hunger or homelessness
About Martha’s Table

We believe that every child deserves the opportunity for their brightest future and a deeply engaged family and community committed to their success.

The Commons
2375 Elvans Road SE
Washington, DC 20020

The Maycroft
1474 Columbia Rd NW
Washington, DC 20009

202-808-8016
info@marthastable.org
www.marthastable.org

Please send all monetary gifts to:
PO Box 97260
Washington, DC 20090

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Art That Inspires

When visiting The Commons, our headquarters in Southeast D.C., you are surrounded by beautiful artwork created by local artists and inspired by our mission to support strong children, strong families, and strong communities. Jack Jack by Haili Francis greets our children, families, and teachers as they enter our education center each day.

While art brings inspiration to The Commons, YOU make our work here possible. With your support, we provide access to healthy food, quality education, and resources for families to thrive.

You’re Invited: tour The Commons and see our programs in action! Contact JerMarkus Booker at jbooker@marthastable.org.

Literacy is Lit – Family Literacy Night

Children and families from our early childhood education and after-school enrichment programs engaged in a night of fun and learning at our Family Literacy Night in April! The theme was Literacy is Lit. Children and families worked together on literacy-infused activities exploring sunlight, shadows, flashlights, light bulbs, and more.

Your support and book donations helped us hold a book fair, where families shopped at no cost for new books to grow their home libraries.

Special thanks to our literacy partner, Sandy Spring Bank Foundation, for supporting our work to help our students grow a life-long love of reading!

Volunteer Spotlight!

Each year, over 18,000 community members like you volunteer to make the work at Martha’s Table possible. We are especially thankful for our recurring volunteers and volunteer groups, like the members of National Presbyterian Church. Congregants come in each month for a food preparation shift at our Northwest location, The Maycroft, collect food donations from the congregation every Sunday, and volunteer regularly at our Joyful Food Markets.

Are you part of a group that wants to volunteer and give back to our community? Check out the calendar of our upcoming volunteer shifts at marthastable.org/volunteer.