

PROFILE

Servant Leader

Executive director leaves corporate world for non-profit service

Candace Winslow was recently named the executive director of St. Andrew United Methodist Church's The Storehouse of Collin County. After years in corporate America, Winslow was able to turn her passion for volunteerism into a career with the Storehouse, and as the new leader of the Storehouse, she looks forward to bolstering local volunteerism for the future. Winslow took a break from her busy day to talk volunteers, service and the Texas coast.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO START AS A VOLUNTEER WITH SEVEN LOAVES, AND NOW YOU'RE THE STOREHOUSE'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR?

I am so grateful to have volunteered at Seven Loaves first before being called to the role of executive director. Serving in the pantry allowed me not only to see the inside operations of this great agency but the incredible work of the volunteers. From my very first volunteer shift, I appreciated how I was empowered to own the work assigned to me and to make a difference in the lives of those served.

WHAT CAN RESIDENTS EXPECT TO SEE FROM THE STOREHOUSE COLLIN COUNTY?

The Storehouse will continue to capitalize on the nine years of tremendous impact in our community: feeding, clothing and equipping our neighbors in Collin County. With the help of our volunteers in all three areas of the agency – Seven Loaves (our food pantry), Joseph's Coat (our clothes closet) and Project Hope (our mentorship, training and education program) – our goal is to serve each one who walks through our doors with love, grace and acceptance.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR?

My main goal is to invite more people to The Storehouse community as investors in our mission. Whether it be through volunteering time or donating funds, the heart and soul of The Storehouse are the people who give so generously and continuously to support our work.

WHY DID YOU SWITCH FROM CORPORATE WORK TO NONPROFIT WORK?

After many years in the corporate sector, I quickly recognized that I wanted to work tirelessly in organizations that would

leave an impact long past my time here on earth. Although I have volunteered in various agencies all my life, serving in a nonprofit vocationally allows me to apply my business experience in a mission-minded environment.

HOW IMPORTANT ARE VOLUNTEERS TO THE STOREHOUSE?

Without question, without our incredible volunteers, there is no Storehouse. Considering the current valuation of the volunteer hour at \$24.69 per independent sector (independentsector.org) and the fact that on any given week we have over 175 volunteers serving in our agency for two or more hours each, it is very easy to see the quantitative impact.

IF YOU HAD YOUR OWN TALK SHOW, WHO WOULD YOUR FIRST THREE GUESTS BE?

Carolyn Getridge, former interim executive director of The Storehouse; my favorite seminary professor, Dr. Nathan Holsteen; and Mack Brown, former head coach of The University of Texas Longhorns.

IF YOU COULD BE A DISNEY CHARACTER WHO WOULD YOU BE AND WHY?

Mickey Mouse because he is iconic, timeliness and epitomizes happiness.

AS A HOUSTON NATIVE, ARE THERE ANY H-TOWN STAPLES YOU'D LIKE TO BRING TO PLANO AND COLLIN COUNTY?

My favorite thing about Houston was the proximity to the Texas Coast. Not sure I can bring the beach to North Texas.

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT BEING A KID?

Living with my younger sister, Courtney, who now lives on the other side of the globe in London.

WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF SERVICE?

Recognizing that the talents you have been given can be used for a purpose and an impact much greater than yourself.

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