



Our mission: To embody mercy, justice, and love
as diverse faith partners in Washington County

www.harccoalition.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Rev. Elizabeth Jackson**

President, Hagerstown Area Religious Council

301-739-9386 • pastorelizabeta@otterumc.org

February 25, 2020

HARC hires new Executive Director after months-long search

[Hagerstown, Md.] The Hagerstown Area Religious Council (HARC) has hired a new Executive Director. Wendi Perry, of Hagerstown, will take over the organization in March.

Currently serving as Volunteer Coordinator with AmeriCorps in Maryland, as well as Curator at the Doleman Black Heritage Museum in Hagerstown, Perry brings an extensive background in management, supervision, grant writing, and program development and implementation.

HARC's previous Executive Director, Kathy Powderly, left the organization in November 2019 to pursue, along with her husband, their dream of living abroad. They are currently teaching English in Costa Rica.

"I was looking for a position that would provide opportunities to use my God-given talents to serve as a solution, a resource, and most importantly, to do good in this world," Perry said of her new role. "It was the fulfillment of a prayer I had prayed for a while."

"It has been a challenge to find the right mix of energy, skills, and outlook to take HARC into our next chapter," said Rev. Elizabeth Jackson, president of HARC's Board of Directors, "so the Board is especially grateful to have this opportunity to bring Wendi onboard to direct HARC. We look forward to her work, which will continue to promote strong bonds between diverse houses of faith, respond to need, and be a voice for justice in our communities."

Perry holds a Masters degree in Public Administration – Museum Studies/Nonprofit Management from Southern Illinois University. She's won several awards for her work in historical public programming, and has been appointed to leadership positions in numerous professional associations.

"I'm looking forward to reaching out to isolated, under-represented communities in this area," Perry said, "and developing long-lasting, effective relationships that will address HARC's mission and provide complex solutions for the diverse community in which we live."

HARC is a coalition of faith community partners in Washington County. While HARC's partner congregations can differ greatly on theology, all agree on the strength of working together to build a better community, help those in need, and support one another.

###