

NEWS RELEASE



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Contact: Lynne Menon, Director of Marketing & Communications
(203) 388-0124 or lmemon@stlukeslifeworks.org

141 Franklin St.
Stamford, CT 06901
(203) 388-0100
www.learnaliving.org

St. Luke's LifeWorks announces new Chief Executive Officer

Stamford, CT – St. Luke's LifeWorks is pleased to announce the appointment of Jason Shaplen as Chief Executive Officer starting January 25.

Jason comes to St. Luke's LifeWorks from Project Renewal in New York City; one of the nation's largest private, non-profit agencies serving the homeless. As a senior executive, Jason's duties included oversight and direction of the agency with a particular focus on education, life-skills and workforce-development programs. He served as Director of Next Step, the organization's education and employment arm; and in 2006 founded IMPRINTS, a social enterprise that doubles as a for-profit digital printing business and training program for homeless individuals.

Prior to joining Project Renewal, Jason worked in a variety of capacities, including as a journalist at Newsweek and Dow Jones & Co., a speechwriter on Bill Bradley's presidential campaign, a management consultant at Booz Allen & Hamilton, and a senior executive at PCCW (Hong Kong's premier communications company). From 1995-1999, he served in an appointed diplomatic capacity as Policy Advisor at KEDO; the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, where he helped to negotiate international agreements with North Korea. Mr. Shaplen was raised in Asia, where he lived for 20 years. He was a Fulbright Scholar in the Philippines and a Thomas J. Watson Fellow in Malaysia and Israel. His work has appeared in numerous newspapers and journals including the New York Times, the New York Times Magazine, Foreign Affairs, the Asian Wall Street Journal etc.

Jason's experience gives him a unique perspective on the opportunities and challenges human service agencies currently face if they hope to continue to operate and grow. His understanding of the many complexities of serving the homeless, formerly homeless and low-income populations will be invaluable in furthering the mission of St. Luke's LifeWorks as the agency moves forward in this new era.

"I am delighted to join the LifeWorks' team. The organization's mission is not only dear to me, it is critical to society. St. Luke's LifeWorks is special. It provides people with all of the tools they need to break the cycle of homelessness and rebuild their lives. It also has great heart. Put the two together and what emerges is an organization that day in and day out has a significant impact not just on the people we serve, but on everyone who lives in the area."

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