

ON THE SPOT

VICKI KATZ NEW CEO, FAULK CENTER FOR COUNSELING

Vicki Katz has signed on as the new CEO, just as the former Center for Group Counseling has changed its name to the Faulk Center for Counseling with the tagline "The Skill to Hear, the Heart to Care." There's also a new website and brochure. The Cleveland, Ohio native has lived in South Florida for 26 years and in Broken Sound in Boca for more than three. Katz has a history working for nonprofits, most recently the Slomin Family Center for Autism and Related Disabilities in Delray Beach. Building on the legacy of founder, psychologist Elizabeth H. Faulk, Katz wants to double the number of about 2,500 people served in 15,000 hours in the 16-sided rotunda on Boca Rio Road in West Boca and in schools, communities and centers.

"The times are difficult and stressful and we need increased sources," said Holly S. Katz, program and training director, [no relation]. "We're the only game in town."

How do you plan to offer counseling, therapy and support groups to more people who don't have the resources to pay for them?

I want to build the brand in the community and take a 40-year-old organization and re-invent the community relations program. We plan to form an advisory board and have a corps of ambassadors. It's a really great opportunity to steer an established organization into the future.

Why do you consider planned giving so important?

It allows you to do more than keep the lights on and the doors open. We need to double our endowment to provide the level of services needed.

When is your first fundraiser as the new CEO?

We're having a cocktail party and putting event between 5 and 8 p.m. Aug. 14 at JM Lexus in Margate. Save the date and more information will be forthcoming.

You have a different take on philanthropy. Can you explain it?

I firmly believe that combining the work people are passionate about with the work the charity does is key. Planned giving is going to the people who care about what you do.

Why the name change?

We felt the name didn't reflect the totality of our services and it seemed like group was all we did. We do have support groups for caregivers, bereavement, divorce and separation and women's, men's and seniors issues. But we also have individual and family therapy, oversee clinical training for graduate students, and community programs for graduate students, and lectures the first Wednesday of the month. We're fortunate to have a really good reputation.

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to HEAL, the HEART to

