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People Inc. CEO delays retirement amidst COVID-19 crisis **Rob Goldsmith to remain at agency for an additional year**

ABINGDON, Va. – People Incorporated President and CEO Rob Goldsmith announced today that he will delay his planned retirement from the Virginia-based nonprofit for one year. This decision follows a vote by the People Inc. Board of Directors who expressed concerns regarding his retirement during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Goldsmith has served as President and CEO of the community action agency for 38 years. He had planned to retire this December.

“Our hope is that this decision will bring some measure of stability during what feels like an increasingly unstable time,” said board chairman Chris Shortridge.

“A lot has changed over the last few weeks - everyone has been impacted in some way by this virus,” said Goldsmith. “I’m honored to remain at the agency for one more year and to help navigate the challenges presented by the coronavirus.”

People Incorporated will begin soliciting applications for a new President and CEO beginning March 2021 and will bring on the selected applicant as a Senior Vice President in October of that year. Goldsmith will officially step down in December 2021 and remain on in an advisory capacity until the end of January 2022.

The President and CEO oversees a staff of over 250, a budget of \$30 million, provides leadership and staff support to the boards of directors and acts as liaison between the agency and legislative partners, funders, organizational partners and the national Community Action network.

About People Incorporated of Virginia

People Incorporated is a non-profit Community Action Agency and Community Development Corporation committed to providing opportunities for economically disadvantaged people to reach their goals in order to enhance their lives, families, and communities. People Incorporated develops programs and strategies that are designed to move people and communities into the economic mainstream. In Fiscal Year 2019, People Incorporated provided services to over 9,500 clients. For more information about People Incorporated's programs and services contact the Abingdon office at 276-623-9000 or visit us at www.peopleinc.net.

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