



For Immediate Release

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### **FOCUSMAINE ANNOUNCES LEADERSHIP TRANSITION**

PORTLAND, Maine (March 31, 2022)—After nearly five years at the helm of FocusMaine, Dr. Kimberly Hamilton announced that she will be stepping down as the organization's president.

Hamilton was the inaugural president of FocusMaine. During her tenure, the organization has had a tangible impact on key sectors of Maine's economy, including agriculture and food manufacturing, aquaculture and biopharmaceuticals.

"It has been an honor to work alongside so many committed individuals who share a singular vision: to harness the power of jobs to transform the lives of Maine families. We have channeled energy, ideas, and resources into sectors that we believe are gateways to a brighter future for the state," said Hamilton. "I am proud of our work together. By building on the thoughtful research and planning that was in place when I joined, we've created real opportunity for people who call and want to call Maine home."

Michael Dubyak, FocusMaine co-chair, said, "We are grateful for Kim's committed leadership as we have built FocusMaine. Kim has a unique combination of experience and vision that helped us launch the organization. The impact that we've had in a short period of time and the strong partnerships that she cultivated with business and economic development leaders across the state are a testament to her leadership."

"We have so much to celebrate because of Kim's efforts," said Andrea Cianchette Maker, co-chair of FocusMaine. "Our next leader joins a strong, dynamic team at an exciting time in our organization's evolution and will help us build the next phase of FocusMaine from a strong foundation, thanks to Kim's exemplary leadership."

"Just as the organization is reaching an exciting phase in its own evolution, I have reached a similar inflection point in my own life," said Hamilton. "This change will provide the flexibility of place and schedule that my family needs at this stage in our lives."

Hamilton's last day will be July 1, 2022. She will serve as a senior advisor to aid in the transition. Ed McKersie, president of Prosearch and a member of FocusMaine's leadership

team, will lead the search effort for the next president. More details about the role can be [found here](#).

**About FocusMaine:**

FocusMaine is a private sector-led initiative to accelerate the creation of quality jobs in Maine by investing in three of Maine's globally competitive and high-growth fields--agriculture, aquaculture, and biopharmaceuticals—and by strengthening Maine's workforce capacity. FocusMaine partners with a number of Maine organizations to spur business growth within those sectors. Together with its partners, FocusMaine catalyzes sustainable growth and business confidence that energizes Maine's economy. For more information, visit [www.focusmaine.org](http://www.focusmaine.org).