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### CARIZON FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES APPOINTS CEO

Kitchener, ON, 1BOctober 30, 2015– The Board of Directors at Carizon Family and Community Services proudly announces the appointment of Tracy Elop as CEO, effective January 4, 2016.

“The Board of Directors is thrilled to have Tracy taking the helm at Carizon as we embark on a new year,” says Vivian Zochowski, President, Carizon Board of Directors. “Tracy’s expertise in developing and executing collaborative, innovative strategies and her strength in building strong partnerships will increase the capacity of Carizon to serve our community.”

Recognized as a leading advocate for children, youth, adults and families, Tracy brings more than 20 years experience in both the business and not-for-profit sectors. As the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer at KidsAbility Centre for Child Development, Tracy has worked as second-in-command on strategic matters and as a primary leader in operational management. In addition, Tracy has demonstrated her community-minded spirit serving on the Grand River Hospital Board of Directors for 12 years (as Chair from 2013-2015) and the Ontario Trillium Foundation Board of Directors, as well as on collaborative initiatives such as the Ontario Special Needs Strategy and Social Venture Partners.

A Chartered Professional Accountant, Tracy holds both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Accounting from the University of Waterloo. Tracy has been recognized for her achievements, receiving the University of Waterloo Alumni Achievement Award in 2013 and celebrated as a University of Waterloo School of Accountancy Fellowship Honouree.

“The Vision and Mission of Carizon speak to me,” says Tracy. “I fundamentally believe that everyone should be valued for their unique strengths, and I also know that sometimes people need a little help to truly recognize those strengths. Carizon does this - and more.”

Tracy succeeds Susanne Gillespie who accepted the role of President and CEO for Pathways Canada in Toronto. Stephen Swatridge has been acting as Interim CEO at Carizon, following Sue's departure, and will continue to serve in this capacity until Tracy assumes the role on January 4, 2016.

*Carizon is a source of hope for our community. When children, youth, adults, couples or families face life’s challenges, Carizon programs and services provide the care and compassion to help them achieve wellness. Carizon specializes in children’s mental health, youth engagement and development, family violence services, individual and family counselling, parental support and education, credit counselling, workplace resilience, settlement support and community wellness.*

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If you would like more information, please contact Vivian Zochowski, President, Board of Directors at vmz@rogers.com.