



## **CINDY BOOKER NAMED TREE TRUST CAREER PATHWAYS DIRECTOR**

**MINNEAPOLIS (April 25, 2022)**—Tree Trust, a Minnesota-based nonprofit, today announced the appointment of Cindy Booker as Tree Trust’s Director of Career Pathways.

In this role, Booker provides leadership for all Tree Trust Career Pathways programs. These programs include Branches, Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), Tree Trust YouthBuild, and Youth & Young Adult Services (YYAS). The Career Pathways experience at Tree Trust centers on young people making our community a greener, healthier place to live, while developing valuable skills that put them on the road to success. Tree Trust programs include tree care, landscaping, property maintenance, and construction, opening a clear pathway to in-demand careers in the skilled trades and making valuable connections to potential employers.

“It’s exciting to join Tree Trust and contribute to the mission of transforming lives and landscapes,” said Booker. “I’m looking forward to listening and learning from our stakeholders, as we develop ways to reach even more young people and further grow the impact of our Career Pathways programs.”

Booker reports to Jared Smith, Tree Trust Executive Director and CEO, who added, “Cindy brings a unique, fresh perspective to our Career Pathways program. Under her leadership, we’ll continue building on our long history of equipping people to achieve family-supporting, skilled trade, green careers to create economic opportunity and equity, helping promising young people build skills for a meaningful career.”

An enthusiastic leader that uses lean techniques to improve socioeconomic disparities, Booker’s professional background includes over 25 years of experience working in the community, including roles as the Executive Director at Sabathani Community Center, a college administrator, and a finance executive at Target Corporation. Her educational achievement includes an ABD in organizational development, Master of Science degree in intercultural/multicultural and diversity studies, a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics, and a Six Sigma Green Belt.

Booker is a member of the University of Minnesota and Hennepin History Museum Advisory Committee where she assisted with the following exhibits: “Owning Up, Racism and Housing in Minneapolis”; “Human Toll, A Public History of 35W in South Minneapolis”; and “Separate Not Equal, Hale-Field Pairing: The Desegregation of the Minneapolis Public Schools.”

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### **About Tree Trust**

Tree Trust, a nonprofit founded in 1976 and based in St. Paul, Minnesota, focuses on transforming lives and landscapes. Tree Trust accomplishes this mission by providing meaningful opportunities for greening local communities through tree planting and offering youth valuable work skills and experience through practical job training, creating a brighter future of self-sufficiency. Learn more at [www.treetrust.org](http://www.treetrust.org).