



December 15, 2020

RE: Tania Del Rio Named New Executive Director of YWCA Cambridge

Dear Friends,

The Board of Directors of YWCA Cambridge is thrilled to announce that Tania Del Rio, currently Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement for the City of Boston, will succeed Eva Martin Blythe as Executive Director of YWCA Cambridge. Martin Blythe is retiring after leading the YWCA Cambridge for 13 years.

An executive search committee appointed by the Board of Directors, led a rigorous, national search in partnership with Koya Leadership Partners (Koya), a search firm that specializes in working with mission-driven clients. Over the summer, Koya reached out to more than 60 YWCA Cambridge stakeholders for their input on the priorities and characteristics of the next executive director, using this feedback to develop a position profile and candidate rubric. Over 200 individuals were independently reviewed by Koya, with candidates undergoing subsequent interviews and vetting by the search firm before a total of six top candidates, 50% of whom were women of color, were brought before the search committee. Tania Del Rio emerged as the top finalist for the position, and was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors because of her well-honed multicultural leadership, visionary approach, and strong commitment and passion for advancing the YWCA's mission.

Del Rio brings 10 years of leadership in gender and racial equity to YWCA Cambridge. With a diverse background in policy, advocacy, management, and leadership development, Del Rio has generated awareness and revenue to drive greater impact for families and communities in need. Her passion for building purpose-driven relationships has inspired partnerships with dozens of organizations in the Boston area.

"We thank Eva Martin Blythe for her 30-year commitment and dedication to implementing programs and services that empower women, eliminate racism, and promote dignity for everyone," said Theodora Skeadas, Board Chair of YWCA Cambridge. "For 13 years of service to the YWCA Cambridge, for 30 years of commitment to YWCA nationally and abroad, which includes work as Executive Director of the YWCA Kansas City for 3 years and YWCA Durham Region, Ontario, for 15 years, and for a lifetime of service to women and girls everywhere, we are forever indebted to Eva."

[YWCACAM.ORG](http://YWCACAM.ORG)

# **YWCA** **IS ON A** **MISSION**

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
cambridge, ma

Del Rio has served as Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement for the City of Boston since 2018, leading the Office's launch of initiatives to increase access to quality, affordable childcare, close the racial and gender wage gaps, fight sexual exploitation and gender-based violence, and increase representation for women and people of color in all aspects of public life. She has been responsible for expanding the Office's scope of work into new areas and securing the position of the City of Boston as a national leader on gender equity.

"I am thrilled to be joining a storied organization with a track record of serving and advocating for its community with a sense of purpose and solidarity," said Tania Del Rio, incoming Executive Director, YWCA Cambridge. "Improving the lives of people who identify as women is my personal life mission. I am grateful for an opportunity to head a team that can address race and gender inequities head-on, as they have under Eva Martin Blythe's remarkable leadership," added Del Rio.

Thank you for your support, fellowship, and engagement. We look forward to the next chapter together in support of the YWCA Cambridge.

With much gratitude,

Eva Martin Blythe, Outgoing Executive Director  
Tania Del Rio, Incoming Executive Director  
Theodora Skeadas, Board Chair  
YWCA Cambridge