



**SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS ACADEMY**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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The San Francisco 49ers Academy Names Tahisha S. Victor, MSW, Executive Director

EAST PALO ALTO — The San Francisco 49ers Academy has selected Tahisha S. Victor, MSW, the current Deputy Director, as its next Executive Director. Tahisha will succeed Michele Sharkey, who will continue to support the organization as Founder, effective March 1, 2021.

Over the past two years, Tahisha has steadfastly served as Deputy Director of the 49ers Academy – a nonprofit providing adolescent students with a community of support that empowers them to be engaged in school, to reach their full potential, and achieve academic and personal success in middle school, high school and beyond. Tahisha has spearheaded the 49ers Academy's COVID-19 response, which includes the launch of an innovative pilot program serving students at Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School.

Thank you to Michele Sharkey for her 25 years of dedicated service to the 49ers Academy. Welcome to Tahisha Victor, our incoming Executive Director, we look forward to your leadership. Together we will continue to make a difference in East Palo Alto! -49ers Academy Board of Directors

Tahisha is fervent about closing the opportunity gap and supporting kids in reaching their full potential. Over the past 15 years, Tahisha gained extensive experience working with youth and marginalized groups in various settings including as a crisis manager, program analyst, executive coach, and nonprofit executive. In addition to a career dedicated to supporting others, her educational background includes a BS in Criminal Justice and a Master of Social Work with a specialization in organizational management.

"The San Francisco 49ers Academy's mission and culture resonate strongly with who I am as a person and a professional, and I am overjoyed and humbled at this opportunity to lead this fantastic organization! Following in Michele's shoes will not be easy. She's a bold and visionary leader with a dedication to our students, their families, and the EPA community. Our team displays the same passion. For the last two years, I witnessed my team exceed expectations, finding innovative ways to support our young people and partner schools. I'm looking forward to building upon all of the incredible success of the Academy and leading the organization into its next chapter of growth and development." -Tahisha S. Victor, MSW

As Executive Director, Tahisha will work closely with staff, community and the 49ers Academy board to ensure the organization can continue to adapt to serve youth through the ongoing

COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Tahisha will continue to drive the organization's programmatic development with a concerted focus on impact and evaluation.

#### About the San Francisco 49ers Academy

The San Francisco 49ers Academy opened in 1996 as an alternative program to provide a small, caring, and safe community to the students of East Palo Alto. In partnership with the Ravenswood City School District and the San Francisco 49ers Foundation, the goal was to keep students safe, on-track and in school. In the years since, the Academy has impacted the lives of hundreds of students and our staff has accumulated over 100 combined years of experience directly serving the students of East Palo Alto. This longevity is a testament to the dedication, commitment, and perseverance of all that are part of the 49ers Academy Family. Learn more at: [www.49ersAcademy.org](http://www.49ersAcademy.org)