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Nominee for

Virginia Episcopal Real Estate Partners (formerly Virginia Diocesan Homes)

Name

Mrs. Rhian Gwynned Allvin

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Church name and location

The Falls Church Episcopal

**Are you a confirmed adult
communicant in good standing of
an Episcopal Church in the
Diocese of Virginia**

Yes

Signature



Professional/educational background

Rhian Evans Allvin owns Brynmor Holdings, LLC. Brynmor Holdings operates Brynmor Early Education & Preschool which was founded in 2022 and opened its first center in October 2023 in Lorton, VA. The Lorton program is housed in two historic buildings that, for one hundred years, were part of a maximum-security federal penitentiary. Brynmor also operates the child care centers at the US Dept. of State and Culpeper Baptist Church. Brynmor is a Certified Women-Owned Business, Virginia Values Veterans Certified.

In 2022 Rhian stepped down from serving for nine years as the chief executive officer of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). During Rhian's tenure, NAEYC went through a dramatic structural transformation to reverse 15 years of membership decline, exert strong policy and advocacy leadership, provide unequivocal guidance through the development of position statements and streamline the early childhood program accreditation system. Also during this time, NAEYC conceptualized and convened Power to the Profession, a national collaborative between 15 organizations representing the early childhood field which resulted in the release of a Unifying Framework to create an aligned professional field of practice for early childhood educators. During Rhian's tenure, NAEYC participated in securing the largest increase in federal funding in the history of child care in the US totaling \$5.4 billion over two years with an additional \$50 billion in federal stimulus funding. Under Rhian's leadership, NAEYC undertook a strategic real estate plan that resulted in a complex real estate transaction to successfully sell NAEYC's 75,000 square foot property in Washington, D.C.

Before joining NAEYC, Evans Allvin was a guiding force in Arizona's early childhood movement for more than 15 years. In 2006 she co-wrote the citizen's ballot initiative that created First Things First (FTF) which set aside \$130 million in annual Arizona tobacco tax monies for children birth to five and created a state agency whose purpose is to ensure all Arizona children start kindergarten prepared to be successful in school and in life. Governor Janet Napolitano appointed her to FTF's inaugural state board, where she served before resigning to become the organization's chief executive officer (CEO).

Early in her career, Rhian was a founding partner in the Brecon Group where she specialized in public policy, philanthropy and community engagement. As senior advancement officer at the Arizona Community Foundation, she used her knowledge in community organizing, communications, fundraising and nonprofit management to help donors connect their philanthropic interests with community needs. Additionally, she served in leadership roles with Libraries for the Future, a national nonprofit dedicated to bolster the value of libraries in America's democracy and bridge the digital divide, and Children's Action Alliance, Arizona's

state-based child advocacy organization.

Rhian has authored a number of white papers, articles, policy briefs and reports on various topics and she regularly serves as a presenter for diverse international, national, state and community conversations. She has testified before the United States Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions and she is a relied upon source on the economics, policy and implementation of high-quality early education for broadcast and print media including Good Morning America, The New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, U.S. News and National Public Radio.

Rhian holds a bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University and a master's degree in business administration from Arizona State University. She is a Trustee of the Falls Church Endowment Fund and has received various honors and recognition for her work on behalf of children including being inducted into the Northern Arizona University College of Education Hall of Fame in 2016, Smithsonian Early Education Center Excellence in Early Education 2015, The Junior League of Phoenix Valley Impact Award 2011, Reach out and Read Storyteller of the Year and the Southern Arizona AEYC Board Award 2014. She is married to Paul Allvin and they live in Falls Church, VA with their three children.

Church involvement - local, diocesan, and/or The Episcopal Church

Former Sunday School Teacher, former member finance and audit committees, current board member of The Falls Church Episcopal Endowment Fund. Chalice bearer and lay reader.

Pertinent skills you bring to this work

I have spent more than 30 years leading large government and nonprofit organizations all focused on early childhood education. In my previous role as CEO at NAEYC I led a complex real estate transaction to sell our DC based headquarters. I currently own and operate three early childhood education centers in Fairfax County, Culpeper County and the District of Columbia.

Why do you wish to serve?

I am inspired by the mission to ensure the large Episcopal real estate portfolio is maximized to the benefit of the community and I am very committed to expanding access to high quality child care. Supporting the church in these efforts is exciting.
