

**11th February 2019**

**HONG KONG NGO, PATHFINDERS, NAMES CATHERINE GURTIN AS CEO, SUCCEEDING KAY McARDLE WHO STEPS DOWN AFTER OVER 5 YEARS.**

**HONG KONG, 11 FEBRUARY, 2019** – The Board of PathFinders Limited is pleased to announce that Catherine Gurtin has been named as PathFinders' new Chief Executive Officer, effective today. Now in its tenth year, PathFinders has helped over 6,150 of the most vulnerable ethnic minority babies, children and women in Hong Kong by providing shelter, food, clothing, access to healthcare, education, counselling and legal assistance.

Catherine succeeds Kay McArdle, who, with PathFinders' endorsement, will develop a platform focused on providing legal and policy support for vulnerable women and children, including PathFinders' clients. Kay becomes an Advisor to PathFinders.

Catherine previously worked at Save the Children for seven years, most recently as Chief Operating Officer in Hong Kong and also at the Confederation of Meningitis Organisations as a Consultant Coordinator. Prior to that, Catherine was an Associate Director in the International Public Affairs team at Pfizer. Catherine has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from The University of Surrey in England.

Catherine Gurtin said, *"I am thrilled to join such an outstanding team and wonderful organisation. It is a privilege to take up this appointment and I look forward to applying my passions for networking and bringing together people with diverse backgrounds and skills in pursuit of PathFinders' mission to ensure that every child has a fair start in life. I am also delighted that I'll be working with Kay."*

Vivien Webb, PathFinders' Board Chair and Managing Director and Head of Sales for Private Wealth Management Asia for Hong Kong and China markets at Morgan Stanley said, *"We are fortunate to have in Catherine a CEO who is already so familiar with PathFinders' clients, work and key community stakeholders. Catherine brings experience in stakeholder engagement, project creation and management, and advocacy and campaign development and we are delighted to have her on board. I would like to express our gratitude to Kay for her vision and leadership. PathFinders' work, and the plight of our clients, is now well-known both at home and internationally. We will continue to collaborate closely with Kay and the new access to justice platform. For us, this is the beginning of a new collaboration with Kay, the future of which we are most excited and optimistic about."*

Kay McArdle said, *"It has been a tremendous honour and pleasure to serve as PathFinders' first CEO. The clients, team and board are some of the most collaborative, resilient and inspiring people I know. As demand for PathFinders' access to justice and policy work continues to grow, it makes sense to enhance it, thereby enabling PathFinders to focus its core humanitarian services of social welfare, healthcare, education and home country integration. I am delighted that I will continue to work with PathFinders and its clients, and I look forward to working closely with Catherine."*

**About PathFinders**

PathFinders works to ensure that the most vulnerable children in Hong Kong, and their migrant mothers, are respected and protected. We work to ensure that every child has a fair start in life. Since our founding in 2008, PathFinders has helped over 6,150 of Hong Kong's most vulnerable babies, children and migrant women. Over 10% of the children we have served would, but for PathFinders, have been at extreme risk of abuse, neglect, even trafficking. PathFinders Limited is an independent, secular and non-partisan humanitarian services organisation with tax-exempt charitable status in Hong Kong. PathFinders Limited is incorporated in Hong Kong CR No. 1289039 and is an approved charitable institution under s88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance, file no. 91/10272. PathFinders is listed on WiseGiving, is a member of the Hong Kong Council of Social Services and is an organisation in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since August 2017.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.pathfinders.org.hk/public/>

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