



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***one•n•ten Board of Directors***

***Names Nate Rhoton Interim Executive Director***

*Leadership Change Due to Linda Elliott's Retirement Effective January 1, 2018*

**PHOENIX, January 3, 2018** — **Nate Rhoton**, 39, takes the helm at **one•n•ten** – Arizona's leading LGBTQ youth development agency – as the interim executive director effective January 1, 2018. The former executive director, Linda Elliott, is retiring after six years leading the nonprofit organization.

Rhoton, a Central Phoenix resident, has served as **one•n•ten's** Director of Finance and Operations for a year, and prior to that, served as its Director of Development. "As the board works through our official executive search process, Nate is stepping in to lead the agency," says Carmen Jandacek, Board Chair, **one•n•ten**. "We want to make sure that the board is thoughtful in its efforts to bring in the right person for our new executive as we grow in our reach and impact on hundreds of LGBTQ youth here in the Valley and in parts of the state."

The board named Rhoton to the interim position in December and he officially took over the role effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. He is seasoned in operations and finance having worked with several companies including General Mills, Gap, and Sky Construction and Engineering. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from ASU in economics, is a graduate of Valley Leadership, a Flinn-Brown Leadership Fellow, and has gone through other professional development and leadership programs. Rhoton has also been civically involved as Board Co-Chair for Equality Arizona, The Melonhead Foundation supporting childhood cancer initiatives and as the Gala Committee Chair for the Human Rights Campaign. He has been recognized for his community service with the Mayor Phil Gordon Community Spirit Award, Phoenix Pride in 2015, the Neil Giuliano Alumni Award from ASU in 2013, and the Local Hero's Award from One Community Foundation in 2012.

Rhoton will be tasked with overseeing **one•n•ten** programs which include the Queer Blended Learning Center – an online high school diploma partnership with K12, OUTdoors! Camp – the largest LGBTQ camp of its kind attracting youth from all over North America, the Promise of a New Day (P.O.N.D) housing program for homeless youth, the YES program – a life skills and youth employment program, and a half a

dozen **one•n•ten** satellite centers across Arizona. Its signature event, FRESH Brunch, is coming up Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, and is notable as one of the largest and best attended nonprofit fundraising galas in Arizona.

The board, says Jandacek, hopes to have a permanent executive director named by mid-February.

**About *one•n•ten***

Founded in 1993, **one•n•ten** is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving and assisting LGBTQ youth. We provide youth aged 14 to 24 with tools to improve self-esteem by providing access to social programs that promote self-acceptance, leadership development and healthy life choices. **one•n•ten** provides a comprehensive set of programs and services, including supportive youth centers, housing programs, employment programs, Q High, athletics, arts and music, and partnerships with national LGBTQ organizations. **one•n•ten** is building a world where all LGBTQ youth and young adults are embraced for who they are, actively engaged in their communities and empowered to lead.

**Media Contact:**

Rhonda Bannard  
Inspired Connections  
[rhonda@inspiredconnections.net](mailto:rhonda@inspiredconnections.net)  
602.370.3560

**Organization Contact:**

Travis Shumake  
*one•n•ten*  
[travis@oneten.org](mailto:travis@oneten.org)  
928.853.7106

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