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## **JW House Appoints Larissa Robideaux as New Executive Director** *Nonprofit leader with a family legacy for serving others brings passion and expertise to JW House*

**Santa Clara, June 2015-** JW House, a “home away from home” for families facing medical crises, announced today the appointment of Larissa Robideaux as Executive Director. Ms. Robideaux brings over 10 years of nonprofit experience with a specialty in quality program expansion.

JW House is a local nonprofit committed to the support of families with a loved one receiving treatment at area hospitals. JW House provides both overnight services and daytime respite for families—a home away from home. Since its inception in 2008, JW House has served over 2000 families and has seen considerable growth each year. “The need is apparent and we are implementing unique solutions to ensure no family is separated when they need each other most,” explained Board President Terri Chapman. “Larissa’s strong program expansion background is just what we need as we partner with local hotels and the community to serve more families facing medical crises.”

In her former role Ms. Robideaux served as the Director of Program Operations and Development for Easter Seals Bay Area. In this position, she helped to manage the expansion of the Behavioral Health Provider Network responsible for the administration of services to individuals with Autism within the SF Bay Area. In addition, Ms. Robideaux worked for HOPE Services as their early intervention manager, expanding services over a three year period. Larissa received her Master’s Degree in Public Administration from San Jose State and a Bachelor’s Degree in Business from Menlo College. In addition, she brings 6 years of hospitality experience. Ms. Robideaux’s drive to serve others comes from being raised in a family committed to human services; her father was a nonprofit CEO serving individuals with disabilities for over 35 years in Ireland, Massachusetts and California.

### **About JW House:**

Located at the site of the Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara Medical Center, JW House provides warm, comfortable home just steps away from the hospital for families in medical crisis. Both overnight and day use programs are offered to families of patients while their loved one is undergoing treatment. JW House began as the idea of Jan-Willem (JW) Knapen, a boy who, in the midst of battling cancer, wanted to build a home of comfort for other families during long hospital stays. For more information, please visit [www.jwhouse.org](http://www.jwhouse.org) or call (408) 246-2224. JW House is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization.