

**Everything is Possible.**



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **OHI REINS PASS TO ONLY SECOND PRESIDENT, CEO**

**By Rich Romero**  
**Resource Developer and Housing Administrator**

**OHI, Bangor** – Most people associate the mantra, “Service Above Self,” with the U.S. military; however, Melinda “Mindy” Ward certainly broadens the scope.

Becoming only the second President and CEO for OHI effective today, Ward views OHI as her first child. She began her life-long career with OHI merely 18-months after its founding in 1979.

“I’ve been privileged to be part of an effort by a truly unique and diverse team to raise OHI to serve our community and people with disabilities,” the Orrington-native said. “It has been a rewarding and inspiring experience, to say the least.”

Ward assumes the helm of OHI during arguably the most challenging time in its existence. While her credentials serve her well – experience as a direct support professional, bachelor’s degree in education with a minor in special education from the University of Maine, certificate in human resources studies from Cornell University, certifications as senior professional in human relations and investigator – she plans to rely heavily on a proven team of motivated professionals.

“We are a dedicated group of mission-focused Mainers, determined to make a difference,” Ward said. “Development of future leaders and our workforce shortage are top of my list of concerns. While our workforce shortage is nothing new, it has worsened due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Competition is heavy for quality employees particularly as it’s become a problem for other industries not having experienced this type of shortage in the past. We will find ways to ensure OHI is one of the best places to work and receive services in the state.”

Just as countless people supported by OHI past and present prove OHI’s philosophy,

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**NEW CEO**

“Everything is Possible,” so does Ward.

“I believe in the OHI philosophy,” she said. “Many of us still here today were part of writing it originally and editing it through the years. The words are meaningful. Our philosophy statements embody how I try to live each day. I remain at OHI because its philosophy and mine are one in the same.”