

*For Immediate Release*  
*Contact: Tara Ochman*  
*Tel. 917-582-0153*  
*Email: Tara@CeciMaher.com*

## **Women Leaders Throw Their Support Behind Democrat Ceci Maher for State Senate in the 26th District**

*Maher, the former Executive Director of Sandy Hook Promise, is running for Fairfield County seat being vacated by Senator Will Haskell*

March 8, 2022, Darien, CT— A coalition of distinguished women leaders, including elected officials, mental health professionals, and community organizers, today announced their endorsement of Democrat Ceci Maher, who is seeking the Democratic Party's nomination for State Senate 26th district. Their endorsements not only mark International Women's Day, a day celebrating the socioeconomic, cultural and political achievements of women around the globe, but the importance of electing women to serve in the Connecticut Senate, where currently only 9 of the body's 36 members are women.

### **Caroline Simmons, Mayor of Stamford**

"I'm proud to endorse Ceci Maher for the 26th district state senate seat. Through her non-profit leadership, Ceci has demonstrated her commitment and knowledge of the issues facing our community through her leadership at Person-to-Person," said Caroline Simmons, the first woman to be elected Mayor of Stamford in the city's history. "I'm confident that Ceci will work tirelessly in Hartford for the residents of the 26th district and be a valuable voice for Democratic values in the General Assembly."

### **Julie Pemberton, First Selectman of Redding**

"Ceci is a change maker with a clarity of vision, drive, and authenticity," said Julie Pemberton, First Selectman of Redding. "She has devoted more than 20 years as a private sector executive to improving the lives of Connecticut's families. On the issues of economic growth, transportation, tax relief for working families, education, health care and public safety, Ceci is the voice we need to represent ALL residents of the 26th state senate district in Hartford."

### **Kiki Karpen, President and Founder of Karpen Consulting; former Executive Director of The Community Fund of Darien**

"Ceci is an extraordinary leader who brings both vision and a "can do" attitude to everything she does. She cares deeply about her community. She collaborates to capitalize on the strengths and capacities of partner organizations. Ceci is a strategic thinker, working to find sustainable solutions to problems. I have every confidence that

Ceci would bring these same qualities, along with sound judgment, ethical standards, and her caring heart to serve the people of Connecticut with honor and integrity.”

**Dr. Dee Unterbach, DSW, LCSW, former Hunter College Professor**

“Through her entire adult life Ceci Maher has demonstrated her remarkable capacity and commitment to enhance the quality of life and circumstances of living. Over 4 plus decades of work in public policy, and non-profit programming, Ceci had practiced fiscally conservative administration and a commitment to ethical principles. We can be very proud of the outstanding professional Ceci is and will continue to be as our State Senator”

**Liz Salguero, co-founder of [Circle of Care](#)**

"I have known Ceci for more than 10 years. She has been a colleague, a mentor and serves on the Advisory Board of Circle of Care, the non-profit I founded in 2003. Her macro perspective and deep strategic insights into both business and human nature have made her an invaluable asset to me personally and professionally. Ceci has the unique ability to be present, thoughtful and authentic in her interactions with the people she serves and at the same time to see things from a larger perspective. Her vast experience in the non-profit world tackling issues of food insecurity, basic needs and gun safety make her an ideal candidate for State Senate."

Ceci Maher is a Democratic candidate for State Senate-26th district. She is a senior executive, with over 20 years experience in leading non-profit organizations. She holds a LCSW, Masters degree, from Columbia University. Through her experience at Four Winds Hospital counseling teens, coupled with her leadership at Horizons National Student Enrichment Program, Person-to-Person (P2P), and Sandy Hook Promise, working to prevent gun violence and create safer schools, Ceci keenly understands the issues facing individuals and families and has a proven track record of bringing lasting, meaningful and positive change to people’s lives.

Ceci grew up in Stamford, has worked in New Canaan and Darien, volunteered in Westport, and raised her family first in Norwalk and later in Wilton, which she now calls home.

For more information please visit [Ceci Maher for State Senator](#)

###