Minneapolis, Minn. - The board and staff of the Preeclampsia Foundation, the national patient advocacy organization serving those affected by preeclampsia and other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, today welcomes Eleni Z. Tsigas as the new Executive Director. Tsigas replaced the previous Executive Director after the Board of Directors voted to adopt a more fiscally conservative management model.

Leslie Weeks, chair of the Board of Directors, stated unequivocally, "The Preeclampsia Foundation is financially stable and we are making every effort to remain so despite the economic challenges facing all non profits. We have in no way sacrificed quality in our move to a part-time executive director. Eleni has proven that she is effective at executing on the Foundation's mission. We are very fortunate to have secured a leader with her credentials."

Tsigas has devoted a great deal of the last decade to this organization as a volunteer – driving communication programs, building organizational infrastructure, and serving on the Board of Directors, including two years as the Chair and Acting Executive Director.
"I continue to be dedicated to the Preeclampsia Foundation because I know personally and through thousands of fellow survivors the terrible toll this health issue has on mothers, babies and indeed entire families. I am very enthusiastic about what we can do today to mitigate catastrophes and I also have high expectations for the future - to improve health outcomes for all mothers and babies, " said Tsigas.

Tsigas spent 15 years in the public relations and strategic communications field, serving primarily technology and bioscience companies. She was also the founder and director of a worldwide agency's broadcast PR services, and provided media training - in the United States and in Europe - to CEOs and company spokespeople. Previously, she spent six years in the television industry, mostly doing PR for a television station, but also honing skills as a director, producer, and public affairs program host.

Her work with the Preeclampsia Foundation began shortly after its founding in the year 2000. After she left her fast paced career in the corporate world, her contributions to the Foundation expanded considerably when she became president of the board of directors in late 2004 through 2006. The organization grew to a financially sustainable, mission-specific, professionally-run organization, with an active research and education agenda.

She is married, with two of her three pregnancies seriously impacted by preeclampsia, in 1998 and 1999.

Preeclampsia Foundation

The Preeclampsia Foundation is a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in the year 2000 to fund and drive research, raise public and professional awareness, and provide support and education for those whose lives have been touched by preeclampsia and other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. Its mission is to stop preventable death and disability of mothers and babies by eliminating delays in diagnosis, implementing the best known practices,

developing new practices, and helping women and their families through the impact of preeclampsia. More information can be found at www.preeclampsia.org or calling toll-free 1-800-665-9341