



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### RETIREMENT GETS PERSONAL

I think I am probably a typical baby boomer. I don't feel "old" but I'm not young. I see myself staying active into my 70s and 80s, but I don't have the energy I had at 30.

Working at PSRC has been a great place to think about my own aging. Lessons from 15 fall conferences and dozens of "For Your Information" sessions, the Engaged Retirement program, and professional development programs have slowly seeped into my awareness. I have also gained so much knowledge from all of you as you navigate your aging process.

So, as I neared that mass of "10,000 boomers turning 65 each day," I have wondered what my next chapter should look like. I began to imagine part-time work that continues to make a difference, where I can use my social work and leadership skills. After considerable thought, I have decided it is time to pass the role of PSRC Executive Director on to the next leader. Several factors have contributed to this decision at this time.

1. PSRC is a really strong organization. We have a skilled, capable staff who collaborate well and are dedicated to PSRC. We have a committed board, instructors, volunteers, participants, and donors who care about the future of the organization. PSRC is

highly regarded in the wider community. The culture of a welcoming and respectful community is pervasive and underlies all that we do. The organization is financially stable, and has a clear strategic vision. The organization can navigate a change with this support.

2. I have been here nearly 17 years, and I believe that organizations benefit from new leadership, vision, passion, and energy every 15 years or so. A new leader brings new connections and ideas.
3. There are things I want to do while I do have the health and stamina, including volunteering and travel.
4. My parents (at 93 and 96) have wandered into that twilight world of dementia, and while they are well cared for in a residential care community, they rely on me to be their lifeline to the world, and to manage everything for them.
5. My husband retired last June, and my grown children live in New York and Los Angeles, so we want to do more travelling and see them more often. Our evening home life is no longer filled with homework (and PSRC paperwork).
6. And recently an opportunity became available that is the only thing I have ever

imagined I might leave PSRC for: Executive Director of the Friends Foundation for the Aging. I have been on the board for 10 years. It is part-time, home-based, and brings together my passions for the aging field and Quakerism as well as presenting an opportunity to be more engaged in philanthropy.

I love PSRC and am proud of what it has become. It is very hard to leave. Together, we have built a treasured organization. I will be here through the transition and orientation period and will continue to support PSRC as appropriate. I will do all I can to support my successor, whatever s/he requires. I trust that you will do the same. What we offer the community is more important now than ever, and I can't wait to see what new heights are reached under new leadership! Thank you again for your support all these years.

*Susan W. Hoskins, LCSW  
Executive Director*