

Michele Steeb

**Author; Senior Fellow, Texas Public Policy Foundation;
Former CEO, Saint John's Program for Real Change**

For 12 years, Michele served as executive director of *Saint John's Program for Real Change*, having transformed a 30-day emergency shelter into a robust, comprehensive, 18-month program supporting homeless women and children in their battle to overcome the very root of their homelessness. Under her leadership, Saint John's expanded from providing "a temporary roof over heads" to offer mental health services, drug and alcohol counseling, high school diplomas, financial management and extensive hands-on employment training in an effort to bring about real and lasting change in their lives. She partnered with the State of California to replicate this program for women transitioning from prison.

In 2012, Michele was appointed by California Governor Jerry Brown to serve on the *Board of California's Prison Industry Authority*. Her passion for helping those trying to gain a solid foothold and re-enter society quickly led her down a broader path, becoming an outspoken voice in the face of the growing crisis of poverty and homelessness in California. Serving on the *Policy Board to End Homelessness*, she led the effort launching numerous programs such as *Sacramento Steps Forward* and the Stepping Stone Task Force.

Her extensive on-the-ground experience led her to author, "*Answers Behind the Red Door, a battle plan for the homelessness explosion challenging our nation*" and to join the Texas Public Policy Foundation to launch their initiative to transform United States' and Texas' homelessness policy.