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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Foundation Partners Group Appoints Jim Evanger as CEO and President**

*Leadership transition positions company for continued growth and long-term success*

**ORLANDO**, Fla. (June 12, 2026) — Foundation Partners Group, one of the nation's leading providers of funeral, cemetery and cremation services, today announced the appointment of Jim Evanger as chief executive officer (CEO) and president, effective immediately.

Evanger succeeds John D. Smith, who led the organization through its recent ownership transition. In making the announcement, Chairman Ray Wallander expressed appreciation for Smith's leadership, commitment and service during an important chapter in the company's growth.

"Foundation Partners has a strong foundation, a talented leadership team and an extraordinary group of professionals serving families every day," Wallander said. "Jim brings extensive operating experience and a proven record of building high-performing, customer-focused organizations. We are confident he is the right leader to build on our momentum and guide our next phase growth."

Evanger brings more than three decades of leadership experience across consumer services, healthcare, retail, B2C, franchising, manufacturing and private equity-backed businesses. Throughout his career, he has led large organizations, strengthened operations and delivered sustainable business growth.

"Our mission remains unchanged," Wallander said. "Families place an incredible amount of trust in us during some of the most difficult days of their lives. Everything we do begins with honoring that trust by delivering compassionate care, exceptional service and meaningful experiences for the families we serve."

Evanger will work closely with the executive leadership team to advance the company's long-term growth strategy while maintaining a strong focus on supporting team members, serving families and strengthening industry and community partnerships.

"Foundation Partners is well-positioned for the future," Wallander said. "We have a clear purpose, a strong team and a shared commitment to excellence. Jim's experience leading complex service organizations makes him uniquely qualified to lead the company forward."

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**About Foundation Partners Group**

*Orlando, Florida-based Foundation Partners Group is one of the funeral industry's most innovative providers. The company owns and operates more than 225 funeral homes, cremation centers and cemeteries across 21 states. Through The FPG Way—grounded in serving with purpose, growing together and delivering with discipline— Foundation Partners is committed to developing exceptional leaders and teams while providing compassionate, high-quality care to the families and communities it serves. For more information, visit [www.foundationpartners.com](http://www.foundationpartners.com).*