Amanda Walker Joins GP RED as Research and Education Manager

March 2020, Louisville, CO – The GP RED (RED) Operating Board has appointed Amanda Walker, MSRS, as Research and Education Manager. In this role, Ms. Walker will oversee educational and research initiatives, funding opportunities, administration, and organizational goals achievement. She will foster relationships with international, national, state, and regional associations and advocacy organizations whose missions align with that of RED and look for new opportunities to collaborate. She will also contribute to translating research and knowledge to practice and advancing the implementation of evidence-based strategies to build active and healthy communities.

Ms. Walker has a Master’s Degree in Recreational Studies and 15 years of project and grant management experience. As a Research Associate at the University of California, San Diego, she has worked on studies focused on increasing physical activity and improving public health, health equity, and health care delivery through action-oriented research. She is the research and communications manager for the Physical Activity Research Center and was the project manager for the Physical Activity Policy Research Network (PAPRN+) Coordinating Center. She served as a member of the Health and Wellness Advisory Panel for the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) from 2015-2018. Ms. Walker is also the program committee coordinator for the Active Living Conference, which is the premier venue for policy-relevant research and cross-sector exchange among scientists, practitioners, and policy makers on how to study, create and sustain active living environments.

In addition to her professional experience, Amanda is passionate about connecting with diverse partners, advocates, and change agents to share best practices and resources to help inform decisions and policies that will lead to healthier communities for all people. Ms. Walker states, “I believe that everyone should have safe and equitable access to parks, trails, and public spaces that promote physical and mental wellness. I have admired the work of RED for many years and am excited to be part of a team that is dedicated to filling gaps in research, education, and development to help fulfill this vision.”

GP RED is a national 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2008. Amanda Walker, MSRS, Research and Education Manager, can be reached at amandaw@gpred.org and followed on Twitter at @ALR_AWilson.

GP RED’s mission is to fill the gaps in Research, Education and Development (RED) for recreation, land management, health, and allied professionals that help communities thrive.