

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Middlemarch Partners Supports the Formation of Yard Waste Recycling Firm Veransa Group and Makes its First Impact Investment

Merchant banking firm co-invests alongside RFE Investment Partners

December 16th, 2021 (New York, NY) – Middlemarch Partners, a New York-based merchant banking firm, advised on the formation of Veransa Group, a Florida-based yard waste recycling firm whose lead investor is RFE Investment Partners. Middlemarch Capital Partners, the investment arm of Middlemarch Partners, also co-invested in the company.

Veransa Group, Inc., a newly formed company that specializes in transforming urban wood and yard waste into valuable organic commodities, has acquired Consolidated Resource Recovery, Inc. (CRR), the largest and oldest yard waste collection and recycling network in Florida. It has also acquired Florida Organic Solutions, Inc. (FOS), a leading Florida-based organic compost manufacturer. Middlemarch Partners served as Veransa's exclusive investment banker.

"As the investment banking advisor to Veransa, we understood the economic and environmental impact that combining CRR and FOS could create," said Sasha Grutman, a co-founder of Middlemarch Partners. "Veransa represents the first investment that Middlemarch has made in Impact Investing, a sector in which we hope to be more active as bankers and as investors."

"We are very pleased by the rapid progress Veransa is making by integrating CRR and FOS and by growing its footprint in the Tampa region," added David Tanzer of Middlemarch Capital Partners. "By vertically integrating green waste collection centers with organic compost and wood waste feedstock manufacturing facilities, Veransa can increase its revenue capture, lower its operating costs, and build a company that can help the Florida agricultural community reduce its reliance on chemical fertilizers and replace them with organic compost."

"The Veransa organization is delighted to include Middlemarch Capital Partners as an investor in our company," said Marc Owensby, CEO of Veransa Group Inc. "Middlemarch served as our strategic advisor when we partnered with RFE Investment Partners, and we expect to continue working with our advisors at Middlemarch as we scale Veransa."

Veransa will continue to expand its vertical integration strategy with the development and acquisition of additional collection centers and compost manufacturing facilities throughout Florida. Veransa Group is an Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) portfolio company of RFE Investment Partners – a Connecticut-based private equity firm.



"We are looking forward to working with Veransa management and Middlemarch on this exciting venture that is a perfect match with RFE's investment strategy," said Michael Rubel, Managing Director at RFE. "We believe Veransa has tremendous potential, and we appreciate Middlemarch introducing us to this investment opportunity."

ABOUT MIDDLEMARCH PARTNERS

Middlemarch Partners is a New York-based merchant bank. The firm has two operating divisions. Middlemarch Securities LLC is a FINRA-registered broker dealer that assists companies with capital raises and M&A advisory services and is focused on alternative finance, payments, financial technology, business services and impact investing sectors where companies require sophisticated equity and debt investment solutions ranging from \$25 - \$500 million. Middlemarch Capital Partners is a registered investment advisor that designs special purpose investment vehicles that deploy investment capital in venture and growth capital transactions ranging from \$5 to \$20 million. The firm sources capital from institutional investors, family offices, and accredited high net worth individuals. Middlemarch can serve as an independent sponsor of transactions but frequently co-invests alongside blue-chip lead sponsors that are sourced by Middlemarch Securities. For more information about Middlemarch Partners, LLC please visit www.middlemarchllc.com.

ABOUT VERANSA

Veransa specializes in transforming urban wood and yard waste into valuable organic commodities on an industrial scale. Veransa vertically integrates green waste collection centers with organic commodities manufacturing facilities to achieve highest-value use, waste-to-organic commodities, production. The company aggregates green waste and transforms it, using electrically powered processing equipment, into useful products on an industrial scale, including soil-regenerating, OMRI Listed®, organic compost and blended soils, that are free of biosolids or manure. It also processes wood waste into the feedstock for mulch and renewable energy. Veransa is an Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) portfolio company of RFE Investment Partners and is based in the Tampa Bay region of Florida. For more information about Veransa, please visit www.veransa.com.

ABOUT RFE INVESTMENT PARTNERS

RFE Investment Partners is a private equity firm focused on making control investments in established small market companies located in the United States. RFE is a long-standing New Canaan, Connecticut-based firm founded in 1980 with over 40 years of experience investing in the lower middle market. RFE's investment strategy is to transform its portfolio companies from the lower end of the market to fully professionalized and market leading middle market companies. RFE is currently investing out of Fund IX. For more information, visit www.rfeip.com.



Media Contact:

For Middlemarch Partners
Demetris Papademetriou, 212-913-9660, <u>dpapademetriou@middlemarchllc.com</u>

For Versansa Roxane Teymourtash, 240-413-3949, <u>Roxane.teymourtash@veransa.com</u>

For RFE Investment Partners
John Mooney, 908-720-6057, john@overthemoonpr.com