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CHILDREN'S SCIENCE CENTER ANNOUNCES HIRING OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *Organizational changes position Center for growth*

Herndon, VA -- The Children's Science Center today announced the appointment of Nene Spivy, as the organization's new executive director. Spivy, the immediate past board chair of the Children's Science Center, is an engineer and MBA who brings 25 years of diverse management experience to this position including systems and process engineering, new product development and general management in technology businesses and non-profit management. With more than a decade of experience with children's museums, Spivy, as executive director, will be responsible for carrying out the mission and implementation of the organization's strategic plan, providing administrative support to the board's policy making activities, coordinating the overall fundraising effort and managing staff.

Under Spivy's past leadership and with the support from generous donors and volunteers, the Children's Science Center was able to hire its first education team and open a new base of operations at the Center for Innovative Technology campus in Herndon. These steps along with the hard work of 220 active volunteers in 2013 enabled the organization to grow its Mobile Labs offerings by 150 percent; serve 14,400 visitors in seven school districts across the region and launch the new Early Childhood Hands On Science (ECHOS) preschool program.

Beginning in January, Tanya La Force will serve as the Children's Science Center board chair. La Force, who served as development chair and led efforts to raise more than \$1-million in seed funds for the museum, is excited for another year of organizational growth. "The board is pleased that Nene has taken the executive director position. She is the right leader as the organization begins this next phase. Her transition to full-time executive director allows her to more fully focus on developing the team of staff, volunteers and industry professionals needed to design, fund and build a world-class children's science museum."

The Children's Science Center's ultimate goal -- to build a full-scale, state of the art children's science museum -- remains the organization's top goal as it continues to expand STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programming and activities in the region. "This is an exciting time for our organization as we assemble the team needed to take this project to the next level and bring our vision to reality," Spivy said. "It is my honor and privilege to continue my leadership in this new chapter and work alongside dynamic staff and volunteers to grow this museum to serve the half million children in our region."

"The Board will continue to govern and advocate, as well as, think strategically about future programming and partnerships that will enable us to fulfill our vision of a world-class children science museum," said La Force. La Force will be joined on the new leadership team with Board Vice Chair Amy Burke. Burke has extensive expertise with STEM education and research policy issues, and a decade of experience in the semiconductor industry. She chairs the Children's Science Center's STEM Advisory Council and previously, she chaired the Grants Committee.

About The Children's Science Center:

The Children's Science Center is an interactive hands-on museum being planned for Northern Virginia. We envision a facility of over 40,000 square feet that will offer hands-on exhibits, activities and programs focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Today, our Museum Without Walls programs bring hands-on science activities to thousands of area children each year, allowing us to fulfill our mission even before our doors open: to inspire a love of learning and STEM literacy in all children through meaningful creation, exploration and discovery. The Children's Science Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Learn more: www.ChildSci.org Follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/ChildSci and Facebook www.facebook.com/ChildrensScienceCenter.

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