



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LSS/NCA Hires New CEO Christine Connell to Start February 1

Washington, DC—After an extensive national search, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) has hired Christine Connell as its new CEO. She begins February 1.

“Christine brings significant experience in direct client services and nonprofit management, and she is unquestionably committed to serving our most vulnerable neighbors,” said LSS/NCA’s Board Chair Nels Hendrickson who led the search committee. “She is a native of the DC-region and truly understands what makes the needs of our community special. We are very pleased she is joining our organization.”

Prior to joining LSS/NCA, Ms. Connell spent 15 years with Lutheran Social Services of New York (LSSNY), a \$45M human service agency serving the five boroughs of New York City, parts of Long Island as well as Westchester County. She led several of the organization’s program areas including Family and Community Services, and Educational Services, and she was a lead developer of the agency’s LIFE (Lutheran Initiative for Empowerment) Services Initiatives. For the last five years she served as LSSNY’s Vice President for Agency Advancement, managing the organization’s \$6M *Faces of LIFE* funding campaign and leading all new development projects and funding opportunities. Before working at LSSNY, she was the Executive Director of an emergency relief organization in York, PA that served low-income families and individuals.

“I am delighted to return home and lead LSS/NCA into its next century,” said Ms. Connell. “I am inspired by the work and programs, and I’m eager to begin serving beside LSS/NCA’s dedicated staff to help bring wholeness and justice to this community.”

Ms. Connell takes over from Melissa Graves who announced her departure July 2015 after 15 years with the organization.

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Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) walks with those in need and mobilizes community partners to provide services that offer hope and rebuild lives. LSS/NCA is a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization that serves more than 3,000 families and children in crisis throughout the Metro-DC region through Adoption/Foster Care, Caregiver Support, Refugee & Immigrant Services, and Youth Haven for children and families affected by HIV/AIDS. LSS/NCA does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, age, race, creed, gender, sexual orientation.



New LSS/NCA CEO Christine Connell takes the helm Feb. 1

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