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Citizens' Committee for Children Announces Leadership Changes

Gail B. Nayowith Departs as Executive Director after 15 Years at CCC

Jennifer March-Joly, Associate Executive Director and Top Child Welfare Expert, Named Acting Executive Director

New York – The Board of Directors of Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc. (CCC) announced today the appointment of Jennifer March-Joly, CCC's Associate Executive Director since 2001, to the position of Acting Executive Director.

Ms. March-Joly will succeed Ms. Nayowith on an interim basis, while the CCC Board conducts a rigorous search for a permanent Executive Director, looking at both internal and external candidates. Ms. Nayowith, after fifteen years at the helm of New York City's leading child advocacy organization, will become the founding Executive Director of the Laurie M. Tisch Foundation. She will depart on August 31, and Ms. March-Joly will officially assume her new responsibilities on September 1, 2007.

One of New York's leading experts on child welfare, child care and the economic security of children and families, Ms. March-Joly joined CCC in 2001 and was an architect of the organization's *Securing Every Child's Birthright* (SECB) campaign – an initiative to ensure that every child in New York is healthy, housed, educated and safe. In the past year, the SECB campaign has won concrete victories for New York City's children, including the creation of the first local child care tax credit in America, the creation of the New York City Earned Income Tax Credit, expansion of Newborn Home Visiting, as well as a major increase in funding for childcare, universal pre-kindergarten and K-12 education.

“For the past decade and a half New York City's children have had no stronger advocate than Gail B. Nayowith,” said Judith A. Garson, Chairman of the Board of CCC. “Under her leadership, Citizens' Committee for Children has grown and developed into a force that has shaped policy and set the agenda for children and families in New York City.”

“From the creation of the New York City Earned Income Tax Credit, massive increases in funding for universal pre-kindergarten and children's mental health, to the creation of America's first local child care tax credit, New York City is a different place because of Gail, and we owe her an enormous debt of gratitude,” added Ms. Marston, CCC's President.

“I love Citizens’ Committee for Children and I am deeply proud of what we’ve accomplished during the past fifteen years,” said Ms. Nayowith. “We were able to do more than just build an institution and win policy victories for children. We really helped to set in motion a fundamental shift in the conversation about children and families in this city. The well-being of children is now at the heart of New York City’s agenda. There’s a new consensus emerging in support of big, bold initiatives like universal pre-kindergarten, access to affordable, nutritious food and a fundamental rethinking of child welfare and family support services that will really improve the lives of tens of thousands of children and their families.”

“Jennifer March-Joly has been a major force behind our policy agenda over the past six years,” said Ms. Garson. “She’s played a key role in building and managing the organization through consistent growth and a string of really remarkable victories and will be an outstanding Acting Director during this transition period at Citizens’ Committee for Children,” said Ms. Garson.

“With Gail’s departure, we will have some big shoes to fill,” said Ms. March-Joly. “Under Gail’s leadership, we’ve been able to win victories for New York City’s kids which will result in their growing up healthier, safer and better prepared to face the challenges of the 21st century. I look forward to continuing to build on Gail’s record of success and managing Citizens’ Committee for Children during this exciting transition and the search for a permanent Executive Director.”

About Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York

For 60 years, Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York, Inc. (CCC) has been providing a voice for children. As New York City’s only locally-based, multi-issue child advocacy organization, CCC stands up for children because the dream of a healthy, vibrant and productive tomorrow hinges on *Securing Every Child’s Birthright* to be healthy, housed, educated and safe today.

CCC helps make that dream a reality by mobilizing New Yorkers who are committed to making what is best for children a priority. CCC champions children who cannot vote, lobby or advocate on their own behalf to secure the rights, protections and services they deserve. Working with thousands of New Yorkers, CCC is making New York City a better place to be a child.

More information: <http://www.cccnewyork.org>

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