

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEGAN EVERETT NAMED VETERANS PROGRAM DIRECTOR AT ROBERT R. MCCORMICK FOUNDATION

CHICAGO, February 16, 2016 — The Robert R. McCormick Foundation has appointed Megan Everett as Director of the Veterans Program. Everett will oversee the Foundation's Veterans grant program, funding organizations and initiatives that help returning veterans and their families lead successful lives in Illinois.

"Since Megan joined the McCormick Foundation in 2014, she has brought great energy and insights to our veteran community," said David Hiller, President and CEO of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation. "She is a natural leader for our efforts to help make Illinois the best place for returning veterans to live and continue to serve their country and community."

Many men and women who return from service need help navigating a complicated federal and state aid system, support with health and family issues, and career employment that continues veterans' commitment to lives of purpose and service. Using all of the Foundation's tools – grant-making, knowledge sharing, and convening power — the Program aims to assure Illinois veterans and their families have productive and meaningful lives and are assets to their communities.

Everett joined the McCormick Foundation in August 2014 as a program officer. In that role, she took the lead in the evaluation and recommendation of grant proposals and developing relationships with key stakeholders in the veteran community in Illinois.

Prior to arriving at the Foundation, Everett served as the Assistant Director at the Farley Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Northwestern University as well as working at Northwestern University's Center for Civic Engagement and Center for Leadership. Everett was a Surface Warfare Officer in the United States Navy serving in both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Everett is a co-founder and former staff advisor to the Northwestern University Veterans Association, a Director Appointee to the Illinois Veterans Advisory Council, an Advisory Board Member on the Advisory Council for Veterans Affairs for the city of Chicago, and Program Chair of the Veteran Leadership Council.

"Based on Colonel McCormick's legacy, the McCormick Foundation has been a longtime supporter of Illinois service members, military veterans and their families," Everett said. "Through a focused strategy, building upon the infrastructure of our community partners, and working closely with all those that are providing services to veterans and their families every day, I look forward to strengthening and growing the veteran community in Illinois. We will continue to work hard to make the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago national examples for veteran, service member, and family support as well as the best state and city for returning veterans and their families."

Everett obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Society from Cornell University, a Master of Business Administration from Pennsylvania State University and a degree in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern University.

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About the Robert R. McCormick Foundation

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed, and engaged citizens. Through philanthropic grant-making, Cantigny Park, Museums, and Cantigny Golf, the Foundation works to make life better in our communities. The Foundation was established in 1955 upon the death of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. The McCormick Foundation is one of the nation's largest foundations, with more than \$1.5 billion in assets. Find out more at www.mccormickfoundation.org, follow us on Twitter (@McCormick_Fdn) and like us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/mccormickfoundation). Contact: Francisco Martinez, 312-445-5068 or fmartinez@mccormickfoundation.org.