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MCCORMICK FOUNDATION APPOINTS PHILIP ZEPEDA AS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

CHICAGO, **August 13**, **2013**— The Robert R. McCormick Foundation today announced the appointment of Philip Zepeda as director of communications. He will oversee the marketing, communication and public affairs functions of the Foundation.

"Phil is a great communications professional and I am delighted he is joining our team," said David Hiller, president and chief executive officer of the McCormick Foundation. "He knows how to use communications to help advance the work that nonprofits do in the community, which is so important at a time of increasing community needs."

Zepeda has a depth of experience in communications with some of our country's leading nonprofit organizations, including senior communications positions with <u>Feeding America</u> and the <u>American Red Cross</u>. While at Feeding America, he oversaw the relief efforts during Hurricane Katrina, launched a partnership with NBC's reality hit "The Biggest Loser" and founded the Feeding America Entertainment Council. As Vice President of Communications and Marketing at the American Red Cross, Zepeda coordinated communications teams on more than 50 national disaster assignments, including the tragedies of September 11, 2001.

"With partners across the city, region, and nation, the McCormick Foundation is fervently committed to addressing the most pressing issues facing our society," said Zepeda. "It is an honor for me to be joining an organization that is a leading force in philanthropy and community giving."

Zepeda, a Chicago area native, holds a Bachelor of Science in Communication from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Science in Communication from Northwestern University.

About the Robert R. McCormick Foundation

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens. Through philanthropic programs, Cantigny Park and museums, the Foundation helps develop citizen leaders and works to make life better in our communities. The Foundation was established as a charitable trust 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 billion in assets. To learn more about the McCormick Foundation visit McCormickFoundation.org, follow us on Twitter at @McCormick_Fdn, or like us on Facebook.

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