



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Voices for Georgia's Children Announces New Board Members

ATLANTA, Ga. – Voices for Georgia's Children announces the election of four new members to its Board of Directors, as well as the full slate of officers and board members for the upcoming year.

Joining the Board of Directors are Stacey Chavis, Leslie Kurtz, Jose Perez, and Calvin Ward:

- **Stacey Chavis** is currently the Managing Director at Campaigns Academy, where she trains leaders to serve in elected office and serve in leadership positions for political candidates and campaigns. She also works with nonprofits to develop their public policy and advocacy agendas.
- **Leslie Kurtz**, Chief Financial Officer for Jackson Healthcare, is responsible for leading the accounting, treasury, financial planning and analysis, and risk management operations of the enterprise, including financial oversight of the Jackson Healthcare family of companies.
- **Jose Perez** is the Retired President of Target Market Trends, Inc. (TMT), a business consulting firm he founded in 2002. He also served on the Board of Education from 2004 to 2011 representing the 7th Congressional District, and represented Georgia on the board of the National Association of State Boards of Education. Currently, Mr. Perez is a Commissioner in the State Charter School Commission.
- **Calvin Ward** is employed with Truist Financial as a Wealth Advisor, where he helps his clients take a comprehensive, strategic approach to financial planning even in the early stages of asset accumulation. He has been in financial services for more than 33 years.

"We are excited to welcome our four newest members to the Board of Directors," said Dr. Erica Fener Sitkoff, Executive Director of Voices for Georgia's Children. "This year has already seen great challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as our country confronting the long-standing systemic racism that is present in our institutions and society. As we work to advance laws, policies, and actions that improve children's lives, the leadership of our dynamic Board is more important than ever."

The Board elected the following officers for FY 2021:

Officers:

- Anne DeBeer, Chair; *Chief Information Officer in Residence*, TechBridge, Retired, SVP & CFO/CIO, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- Rodney Lyn, *Vice Chair; Interim Dean, Sr. Associate Dean*, Georgia State University School of Public Health
- Baylie Fry, Secretary; *Healthcare Transactional and Regulatory Associate*, Baker and Hostetler, LLP
- Stephanie Morela, Treasurer; *Assurance Partner*, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, LLP

The slate of Board Members for FY 2021 is listed below.

Directors-at-large:

- Cindy Abel, *Founder*, Liv2BGirl, LLC
- Brad Bryant, *Vice President*, Reach Georgia
- Stacey Chavis, *Managing Director*, Campaigns Academy
- Billy Dukes, *Engaged Constituent*
- Rita Gibson, *Executive Director*, The University Community Development Corp.
- Phil Jacobs, *Founding Partner*, Pendleton Consulting Group
- Randall Kirsch, *Principal*, Jackson Spalding
- Leslie Kurtz, *Chief Financial Officer*, Jackson Healthcare, LLC
- Joseph Lillyblad, *Education and Workforce Development Manager, Community & Economic Development Team*, Georgia Power
- Sandy O'Meara, *Chief Financial Officer*, Friends of Forman Christian College
- Jose Perez, *Retired President*, Target Market Trends
- Jamila Pope, *Government Affairs Director*, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Mitch Saunders, *Chief Accounting Officer*, Atlanticus Holdings Corp.
- Leigh Saxon, *Senior Vice President Enterprise Executive Talent Acquisition*, Truist Bank
- Allison Thompson, *Partner*, Alston & Bird, LLP
- Dr. Tameeka Law Walker, *Physician*, Georgia Perinatal Consultants
- Calvin Ward, *Wealth Advisor*, Truist Financial
- John Wright, *Program Director/Sr. Business Development Manager*, AECOM

About Voices for Georgia's Children

Founded in 2003, Voices for Georgia's Children is the only comprehensive policy and advocacy organization committed to improving the lives of children in Georgia. Voices is comprised of insiders, conveners, and experts. We are pragmatic, data-driven, nonpartisan, and focused on equitable, comprehensive policy solutions for Georgia's children. Our work is framed in a holistic "whole child" perspective that allows us to identify how different policies impact children and to propose solutions that benefit children on multiple levels.