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**IMPACT Silver Spring Announces Addition of Casey Foundation Manager**

*Hire Helps Door-Knocking Campaign to Connect Neighbors in Need*

IMPACT Silver Spring, a community-based organization devoted to bringing residents together across lines of race, class and culture, announced today that Ronnie Galvin, Jr. of the Annie E. Casey Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia, will assume the new role of Deputy Director as of February 16.



The addition of Galvin allows the organization to build on the highly successful Neighbors Campaign, a partnership with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and others, to provide emergency services to neighbors in need and create new networks of mutual support. A central part of the Campaign is knocking on 10,000 doors in three targeted communities to connect those in crisis to services, and to invite residents to begin forming neighbor circles, a vehicle for supporting each other.

“The newly created position signals IMPACT Silver Spring’s growth and underscores our commitment to expanded accountability to network members, partners, and the larger community,” said Executive Director Frankie Blackburn. “This was a significant step for us, and after reviewing more than one hundred applications, we are confident that we have hired the most qualified candidate who shares our belief in shared power, diversity, and the efficacy of relationships.”

Over the past year, IMPACT has re-organized itself, recruited over 80 volunteers from the IMPACT Network, and recruited new leadership in order to accomplish and fully leverage the opportunities presented by the Neighbors Campaign. As Deputy Director, Galvin has the responsibility for managing the organization’s network organizing team, which includes the staff implementing the Neighbors Campaign and a long-term School Transformation Initiative, a partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools. Galvin was most recently the Senior Community Builder at the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Atlanta Civic Site and brings a wealth of experience in the areas of network organizing and community capacity building.

“All over this nation, when people refer to developing communities, emphasis has been given to concrete, bricks, and mortar,” Galvin said. “I am excited to join a team that affirms that healthy, whole, and sustainable communities are built on the bedrock of meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships.”

Galvin’s first task is to establish a system of support and accountability for the 10 people who make up IMPACT’s networking organizing staff, which includes network managers, engagement coordinators, and AmeriCorps community builders. Galvin will also be responsible for

broadening and deepening the organization's relationships in the Long Branch and Wheaton networks and initiating a new area of focus—workforce development and economic empowerment.

Galvin received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Marketing from The Citadel Military College of South Carolina in 1990 and his Master of Divinity from Emory University Candler School of Theology in 2000. He has served on the board of directors for the 303 Community Coalition, Inc. and has likewise served on the Atlanta Beltline Community Land Trust Formation Committee, the AID Atlanta Partnership Fund Start-Up Team, and the Equity Atlanta Forum.

IMPACT Silver Spring was founded in 1999 to address ongoing social needs in an extremely diverse community, working toward a vision of a thriving, multicultural community. IMPACT creates new environments for cross-cultural exchange and collaborative action through its diverse community network. The organization runs targeted capacity-building programs for residents and groups to build empowerment and leadership skills. [www.impactsilverspring.org](http://www.impactsilverspring.org)

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