



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COLORADO CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP

Chris Watney to Lead Organization Into New Phase of Advocacy for Kids

The Colorado Children's Campaign Board of Directors announced today that it has named a new President, Chris Watney, to lead the organization.

"The Board of the Colorado Children's Campaign took the opportunity to review our strategic direction and found the best person to move us forward," said Katherine Gold, Chair, Board of Directors, Colorado Children's Campaign. "Chris has an energetic and new approach to the critical mission of this organization, and we are thrilled to have captured her talent as our leader."

"The Colorado Children's Campaign has a 25-year track record of serving as the most trusted voice for children in the state," Gov. Bill Ritter said. "Chris Watney has been an integral part of the Children's Campaign for years. She is a talented and innovative leader whose vision will strengthen the Children's Campaign well into the future. The real beneficiaries of Chris' leadership will be Colorado's more than one million children."

Watney has been with the Children's Campaign, including as Executive Vice President, for more than six years. Previously, she worked as the Communications Director for a U.S. Senate race and as spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Justice under Attorneys General Janet Reno and John Ashcroft in Washington, D.C., including as spokesperson for the Justice Department during the Oklahoma City bombing trials. Watney is Chair of the Board of West Denver Preparatory Charter School, one of the highest performing public middle schools in Colorado, and has a Bachelor's from the University of Kansas and a Master's from the University of Northern Colorado.

"Chris Watney is not bound by conventional terms of public debate. She inherently sees potential allies and not adversaries on issues from education to health care," said Dick Wadhams, Chair, Colorado Republican Party. "For decades, the Children's Campaign has joined with a wide range of leaders to fundamentally improve children's lives through school choice and other issues. Chris Watney will lead the Colorado Children's Campaign in that proud tradition."

For more information about the Colorado Children's Campaign or Watney, please visit www.coloradokids.org.

The Colorado Children's Campaign is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization focusing on expanding access to quality health care, K-12 education and early childhood experiences. For more information, please visit www.coloradokids.org.