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Christopher Kealey Joins AbilityFirst as Chief Development Officer

PASADENA, (Feb 4, 2020) – AbilityFirst announces today that Christopher Kealey has joined as Chief Development Officer. In this new role for Chris, he will be responsible for expanding and growing AbilityFirst’s network of donors, corporate sponsors, foundations and partnerships.

“Chris will be the key driver in AbilityFirst’s fundraising plan” says CEO, Lori Gangemi, “including our annual Stroll & Roll fundraiser happening on June 13, 2020, other major events, corporations, foundations and partnerships, donors and donor relations.”

Chris is an accomplished fundraiser with more than 25 years of experience. Prior to AbilityFirst he spent nearly two years as the Senior Director of Development at Cal Poly Pomona’s Collins College of Hospitality Management. Before that, he has served as Executive Director of the San Marino Schools Foundation, Director of Development and Marketing for the Caltech Y, and Executive Director and Founder of Peace Works International.

“I’m thrilled to join AbilityFirst,” says Chris, “an organization that is well-respected in our community because of the tremendous difference it makes in the lives of so many children and adults with disabilities and their families.”

Chris earned his bachelor’s in political science from UC Santa Barbara and an MBA from Claremont Graduate University. Chris is bilingual in written and spoken Spanish and has been a Tournament of Roses Association member for almost 20 years.

About AbilityFirst

AbilityFirst offers a variety of programs geared to strengthen and cultivate skills that give individuals the necessary tools to successfully navigate each transition in life, including building social connections and independence; employment preparation, training and experience; and, fun and engaging activities that offer an opportunity to refresh and recharge. To learn more visit abilityfirst.org

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