



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM PROMOTES LESLIE WALKER TO VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS

PHILADELPHIA, PA - Please Touch Museum®, the Children's Museum of Philadelphia, today announced the promotion of Leslie M. Walker to the position of Vice President of Community Programs, Outreach and Partnerships. Ms. Walker will be responsible for building relationships with neighbors and local organizations and for articulating the museum's mission, vision and values to key constituents.

Ms. Walker has worked for over 20 years on behalf of the Philadelphia public and most recently served as Please Touch Museum's Director of Community Programs, Outreach and Partnerships. Since October 2008, the West Philadelphia resident has overseen multiple programs and supported the museum through collaboration, innovation and commitment. She has aided in the development of new partnerships and has ensured the quality and professional delivery of programs to families with young children.

"Leslie has provided outstanding leadership over the past two years, increasing the museum's level of community outreach and expanding our programs and relationships," said Laura Foster, President and CEO of Please Touch Museum. "Her breadth of experience and skills will continue to be an invaluable resource as Please Touch forges new relationships across the Greater Philadelphia region."

"I am honored to be named Vice President of Community Programs, Outreach and Partnerships and I am excited for the opportunity to build upon the relationships we have established in our first two years at Memorial Hall," said Walker. "Expanding our reach into the community and developing meaningful programming for families with young children will be at the forefront of my efforts in this new role."

Prior to joining the museum, Ms. Walker served as Program Assistant to the President and CEO of Philadelphia Safe and Sound, and had previously served as Project Coordinator. Prior to her work at Philadelphia Safe and Sound, Ms. Walker was a Quality Improvement Specialist for the Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children. Ms. Walker has a Masters Degree in Training and Organizational Development from Saint Joseph's University and a BA in Urban Studies from Rutgers University.

Please Touch Museum is nationally recognized for its community programming and outreach and its ongoing effort to bring the museum's educational resources to underserved communities. The museum's outreach programs are designed to be multi-generational, cross-curricular, and consistent with state learning standards. School Readiness programming, Creative Parenting for Teens lessons, teen mentoring programs and Autism Access programs are some of the many efforts of the department.

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Please Touch Museum® at Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park is dedicated to enriching the lives of children by providing learning opportunities through play. Recognized locally and nationally as one of the best children's museums, Please Touch is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. -5 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults and children age one and over. Children under one are free. For more information, please call 215-581-3181, or visit [www.pleasetouchmuseum.org](http://www.pleasetouchmuseum.org).