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## **NEWS MEDIA RELEASE**

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## IMPACT SILVER SPRING NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Silver Spring, MD – IMPACT Silver Spring, a social change and community building nonprofit serving Montgomery County, has named Chris Beard as its new Executive Director.

A passionate advocate for families and children, Beard has served in leadership roles in the non-profit, government and private sectors, catalyzing change through publications, project management, training and consultation. "We are excited to welcome Chris to IMPACT," says Nanette Alvey, Board President of IMPACT Silver Spring. He will be building on the work of the previous Executive Director, Jayne Park, and the Interim Executive Director, Michael Rubin, who set an ambitious direction for IMPACT towards its goal of greater economic and racial equity in Montgomery County as well as transitioning to a more democratic workplace structure. Chris brings a wonderful mix of collaborative experience and creative ideas which will create a dynamic synergy with the outstanding staff."

Prior to his selection as Executive Director of IMPACT Silver Spring, Beard gathered extensive experience in leadership, managing various social impact projects ranging from family support services to reentry programming at both national and local levels. Notably, he served as the DC Head Start State Collaboration Director and as a Director for the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI). During his time at NFI, he co-authored InsideOut Dad<sup>TM</sup>, the nation's most widely used evidence-based fatherhood program designed for incarcerated fathers. Most recently, Beard managed a portfolio of partner grantees associated with the Grow with Google Fund for Justice-Impacted Communities, a program designed to support justice-impacted individuals in overcoming workforce reentry barriers by bridging the digital literacy gap.

Beard holds a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Southern California and will be graduating next year with a Masters in Major Program Management from the Saïd Business School at Oxford University, UK.

"My entire career has focused on being of service to communities, children, and families who find themselves on the fringes of society," says Beard. "Being a catalyst for positive change in the daily lives of people is where my deepest passion lies. I look forward to collaborating with our staff and residents in our community to build a strong future of racial and economic equity we all can be proud of."

We'd like to take this time to thank Michael Rubin who stepped into the position of Interim Executive Director which he has held for more than a year. His incomparable dedication to IMPACT had him managing multiple aspects of the organization and keeping the programs running and growing. His unwavering commitment has been much appreciated.

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