



For Immediate Release
September 11, 2014

Contact: Hanif Houston, (510) 684-0322, hhouston@childrensdefense.org

Media Availability: Children's Defense Fund Founder and President Marian Wright Edelman and Newly Announced Children's Defense Fund-California Executive Director Alex Johnson

Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of The Children's Defense Fund (CDF), is pleased to announce that **Alex Johnson** has joined CDF-California as Executive Director. Johnson brings to CDF-CA a powerful combination of extensive policy experience on behalf of children and youth, strong partnerships with community-based organizations and elected officials, and a passion for making a difference in the lives of California's children. **Children's Defense Fund-California** is a non-profit child advocacy organization that has worked relentlessly for 40 years to ensure a level playing field for all children.

WHEN: Friday, September 12, 2014
10:00 A.M.

WHO: **Marian Wright Edelman**, Founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund
Alex Johnson, California Executive Director of the Children's Defense Fund

WHAT: Marian Wright Edelman and Alex Johnson will be available to answer questions from the media on Children's Defense Fund's work and vision to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

WHERE: Children's Defense Fund-California Los Angeles office
634 S. Spring Street, Suite 500C, Los Angeles, CA 90014
Phone option available: please contact Hanif Houston, (510) 684-0322,
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VISUALS: Photo opportunities of Marian Wright Edelman, Alex Johnson and community leaders

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Children's Defense Fund-California (CDF-CA) is the California office of the Children's Defense Fund, a non-profit child advocacy organization that has worked relentlessly for 40 years to ensure a level playing field for all children. The Children's Defense Fund champions policies and programs that lift children out of poverty,

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protect them from abuse and neglect, and ensure their access to health care and a quality education. CDF-CA focuses on policies to expend ensure access to quality health coverage and care, reform the juvenile justice system, promote educational equity, and end child poverty. CDF-CA's programs including the CDF Freedom Schools summer literary and enrichment program and the Beat the Odds Scholarship and Leadership Program for high school students who have overcome adversity to excel in school and as leaders in their communities.