



August 10, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACTS: Laura Hilton, Director
Community Education & Training
(919) 865-1786
laurah@interactofwake.org

Kathryn V. Johnson
Interim Executive Director
(919) 828-7501
kathyj@interactofwake.org

InterAct Announces New Executive Director

Raleigh, NC – August 10, 2010 – InterAct, a nationally recognized non-profit agency serving victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault in Wake County, announced today its new Executive Director, Leigh Griffin Duque. Ms. Duque was selected following an extensive and thorough executive search process led by a diverse and talented team headed by Beth Briggs of Creative Philanthropy and Tucker Shade, InterAct's Board of Directors.

"As a nationally known non-profit serving families in Wake County for over 26 years, InterAct required a combination of vision, compassion and management expertise in its leader," said Tucker Shade. "Leigh Griffin Duque has just this combination. Her wealth of non-profit and community experience, track record of management success and commitment to InterAct's mission will be valued assets in our innovative and ongoing efforts to keep families throughout Wake County, North Carolina and America safe."

Duque joins InterAct with a 25-year background in human services and nonprofit administration. Her highly diversified career portfolio includes work with organizations serving the needs of women and girls and many different constituencies. Most recently, she served as Executive Director of the YWCA of the Greater Triangle, Inc., and Chief Development Officer with Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines, Inc., serving 41 central and eastern North Carolina counties.

"I was drawn to InterAct because of their commitment to serving families impacted by domestic violence and rape/sexual assault, lasting community involvement and dedication, and for their recent momentum in advocacy and education programs to keep our community safe," said Duque. "The mission, the philosophy and the values of the organization are an inspiration and entirely compatible with my personal and professional orientation. I am very gratified at having been selected as the organization's next Executive Director from a pool of highly qualified candidates," added Duque. "I look forward to working with our Board of Directors, our talented staff and the community to keep the agency's mission and legacy alive as well as to further the work of an institution so vitally important."

About InterAct

InterAct is a private, nonprofit United Way agency that has provided safety, support, and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault since 1984. InterAct provides two 24-hour crisis lines, group and individual counseling, court and hospital advocacy, professional training, and a full curriculum of violence prevention in the Wake County Public Schools. InterAct also operates Wake County's only confidential residential program for women and children fleeing domestic violence.

InterAct recently opened The Family Safety & Empowerment Center on Oberlin Road in Raleigh. The innovative project takes a collaborative approach to providing safety and essential services to victims of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault. InterAct is headquartered in the building and provides crisis support services, while nine collaborative non-profit partners and agencies have opened satellite programs in the facility so as to offer a one-stop, wrap-around approach that has been recognized nationally for its innovation and effectiveness.

###