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***PolicyLink President and CEO, Michael McAfee, Takes the Lead
as Angela Glover Blackwell Assumes New Role as Founder in Residence***

OAKLAND, Calif. – Today marks the official beginning of the next chapter in the PolicyLink story as [Michael McAfee](#) becomes the new President and CEO of [PolicyLink](#), the national research and action institute advancing racial and economic equity by Lifting Up What Works®. Michael, who has a 20-year track record of fighting for just and fair inclusion for all, came to PolicyLink in 2011 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As Founder in Residence, [Angela Glover Blackwell](#) will continue to serve as a resource to the organization and the national equity movement.

“I’m honored and excited by the opportunity to lead this talented organization at such a critical moment in history, and I’m deeply humbled to follow Angela, who has been the guiding light and force behind the national equity movement for decades,” says McAfee. “I’m eager to build on the many successes of PolicyLink and to work with our partners to make racial and economic equity a reality for every person living in America.”

“Today marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for me and for PolicyLink,” states Glover Blackwell. “I’m looking forward to having time to write, speak, and pursue new equity endeavors under Michael’s fresh and inspirational leadership.”

Sheri Dunn Berry, Co-chair, PolicyLink Board of Directors observed that “We need PolicyLink now more than ever. With 100 million people living near or below poverty in America – including a disproportionate number of people of color – Michael brings the vision, creativity, and commitment needed to lead the organization in this important new chapter.”

“Angela has been and will continue to be one of the leading voices in the nation’s equity movement,” Board Co-chair, Catherine Muther said. “We congratulate her on her new role and are profoundly grateful that she built PolicyLink into what it is today.”

Michael came to PolicyLink seven years ago after serving as Senior Community Planning and Development Representative at the Chicago Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Before HUD, he was Director of Community Leadership for The Greater Kansas City Foundation and Affiliated Trusts where he was instrumental in positioning the organization to raise \$121 million from individual donors, an accomplishment that earned the foundation the honor of being recognized by the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* as the recipient of more contributions than any community foundation in America.

He was the inaugural Director of the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink. Under his leadership, the organization became a national leader in building cradle-to-career systems to ensure pathways to the middle class for children and youth in the nation's most distressed neighborhoods. Promise Neighborhoods became a permanent federal program through the 2015 authorization of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

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