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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOPE 4 Youth Names Lisa Jacobson Executive Director

Anoka, MN (Feb. 8, 2016) – HOPE 4 Youth, a nonprofit organization serving at-risk and homeless youth, today announced that Lisa Jacobson has been named Executive Director. As Executive Director, Jacobson will build on Hope 4 Youth’s past success, expand its reach and influence, and ultimately find ways to end homelessness in Anoka County.

“I am honored to be the next Executive Director at HOPE 4 Youth, an organization that epitomizes my passion for helping young people to change the trajectory of their lives,” Jacobson said. “I look forward to helping create a greater awareness of the issues faced by young people who are homeless, opening the new transitional housing project and ultimately ending youth homelessness in Anoka County by 2024. I am impressed by all that the staff, board, volunteers and this community have accomplished since opening the doors and am excited for the future ahead!”

Jacobson brings fifteen years of leadership experience to her new role. She most recently served as Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer at the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches and has spent most of her career working for nonprofits serving youth and families (PRISM, TreeHouse, myHealth, Girl Scouts) and government (Cities of Robbinsdale and Brooklyn Park). She has also been a volunteer advocate and mentor for hurting and homeless youth for decades.

“Ms. Jacobson brings with her passion, energy, warmth, vision, humor, and a critical commitment to the welfare of young people,” said Board Chair Brian Swanson. “We have no doubt that having her as Executive Director at HOPE 4 Youth is absolutely the best thing for the young people we serve.”

Jacobson was born and raised in the Minneapolis suburbs, where she currently resides. She also serves as the Vice Chair of the Hennepin County Sheriff Foundation and as a Brooklyn Park Planning Commissioner.

She will officially assume her role on February 22, 2016, replacing Interim Executive Director, Cheryl Jensen.

About HOPE 4 Youth

*HOPE 4 Youth, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in Anoka, Minnesota, serves homeless youth by meeting basic needs, as well as helping youth find jobs, finish school, secure housing, and access health and wellness services. The Drop-in Center is open Monday – Friday, 2p.m.–7p.m. **Mission:** providing pathways to end youth homelessness. **Vision:** that all youth feel safe, valued, and supported while reaching their full potential. This begins with meeting their basic needs and leads to giving them the tools and resources to thrive. For more information, please visit www.HOPE4YouthMN.org or contact Kristin VanHeel at kvanheel@hope4youthmn.org.*

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