



****MEDIA ADVISORY****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RAINBOW PUSH COALITION TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE TECH EXPLOSION, OWNERSHIP AND ADOPTION AT ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., Social Justice and Industry Experts Will Provide a Blueprint for Engagement and Ownership for People of Color in the 21st Century during DC Conference

Washington, DC – December 8, 2015 - The Rainbow PUSH Coalition, founded and led by the **Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.**, will be joined by national and area clergy, leading appointed and elected officials; social justice and industry leaders to discuss the intersection of tech policy and current events impacting people of color and their respective communities. The conference will be held on December 15-16, 2015 at the Capital Hilton in Washington, DC and this year's theme will focus on a blueprint for minority media representation in the upcoming Presidential election, and ownership in media and technology outlets, including those that are high tech. This year's conference will also include a special address from the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., whose historic efforts have led to equity in civil rights, voting access, police treatment, and other critical social justice concerns for our nation. In advance of Dr. King's holiday, the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. will share moments from his time with some of the most prolific civil rights champions.

Confirmed speakers include **Reverend Jamal Bryant**, Founder and Senior Pastor, Empowerment Temple; **Reverend Doctor Grainger Browning**, Senior Pastor of the African American Methodist Church; **Reverend Tony Lee**, Senior Pastor, Community of Hope AME Church; **The Honorable G.K. Butterfield**, Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and U.S. Representative for North Carolina's 1st Congressional District; **The Honorable Mignon Clyburn**, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; **The Honorable Elijah Cummings**, U.S. Representative for Maryland's 7th Congressional District; **The Honorable Catherine Pugh**, Maryland State Senator and President, National Caucus of Black State Legislators; **Kwame Anku**, Co-Founder and President, VoiceLots; **Hazeen Ashby**, Legislative Director of Policy and Research, National Urban League; **Matthew Barnhill**, Executive Vice President, Corporate Market Research, BET Networks; **Paul Brathwaite**, Partner, The Podesta Group; **John Burns**, Associate Partner and Entertainment Lawyer, Krooth and Altman; **Nsenga Burton**, Editor, The Burton Wire; **Ron Busby**, President and CEO, US Black Chambers, Inc.; **Keith Clinkscales**, President and CEO, Revolt TV; **Ladavia Drane**, Hilary Clinton's Director of African American Outreach; **Knatokie Ford**, Senior Policy Advisor, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; **Endura Govan**, Founder, International Business Kids; **Kristal High**, Publisher, Politic365; **David Honig**, President Emeritus, Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC); **Talib Karim**, Executive Director, STEM4US; **Maureen Lewis**, Director, Minority Telecommunications Development

Program, U.S. Commerce Department, National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA); **Howie Hodges**, VP, Time Warner Cable; **D'Angela Proctor**, Senior Vice President, Original Programming and Production, TV One; **Steve Roberts**, President and CEO, The Roberts Company; **Angela Rye**, Political Strategist and Principal and CEO, Impact Strategies; **Debra Speed**, Director, Strategic Alliances, Verizon; **Justin Tanner**, Associate Director for the Office of Legislative, Education & Intergovernmental Affairs, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA); **Joe Torres**, Senior Director, Free Press; **Dr. Nicol Turner-Lee**, Vice President and Chief Research and Policy Officer, Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC); **Antonio Williams**, Senior Director, Comcast; **Jim Winston**, President, National Association of Black-Owned Broadcasters (NABOB); and many more.

This year's conference will also bestow five Lifetime Achievement Award, one of the highest leadership distinctions of the organization at the Breakfast Plenary and the Telecommunications Luncheon scheduled on Wednesday, December 16, 2015. Honorees for this year include: **The Honorable Catherine Pugh**, Maryland State Senator and President, National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL); **S. Jenell Trigg**, Partner, Lerman Senter; **Dr. Nicol Turner-Lee**, Vice President and Chief Research and Policy Officer, MMTC; **Keith Clinkscales**, President and CEO, Revolt TV; the **CBC Tech 2020**, a project of the Congressional Black Caucus, and others. Special tributes are also planned for the late media ownership evangelist, **Dr. Everett C. Parker of the United Church of Christ and the former Chairwoman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Jacqueline Berrien** who passed away last month.

The Rainbow PUSH Coalition will also host pre-conference activities on December 15, 2015 from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm as part of an evening celebration with special tributes to 12 inspirational leaders that are advancing media ownership working towards closing the digital divide, and addressing disparities for people of color. Honorees for the Gala will be announced this week. Special musical guests will include: gospel artist **Maurette Brown Clark** who will perform a tribute to gospel legend **Richard Smallwood**, one of the evening's honorees and R&B star, **Angie Stone**. The Gala is free and open to the public. Registration is required at: <http://rpctelecom2015.eventbrite.com>.

For more information on the Rainbow PUSH Coalition Annual DC Gala and Symposium on December 15-16, 2015 at the Capital Hilton on 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036, Washington, DC, please visit <http://rpctelecom2015.eventbrite.com>. The December 16 Symposium is free and open to the public.

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The Rainbow PUSH Coalition is a progressive organization protecting, defending and expanding civil rights to improve economic and educational opportunity. The organization is headquartered at 930 E. 50th St. in Chicago. To learn more about the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, please visit www.rainbowpush.org, or telephone (773) 373-3366. For more information about the Peachtree Street Project and the Create Opportunity Conference, please call the number listed above.