

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2007

MEDIA CONTACTS

Kristin Fleschner 202-293-4505

**Younger Women's Task Force Appoints New National Director**

The *Younger Women's Task Force* National Coordinating Committee and the National Council of Women's Organizations are proud to announce the appointment of Kristin Fleschner to serve as National Director for the *Younger Women's Task Force*, a Project of the National Council of Women's Organizations.

The National Director is the key organizing position within the *Younger Women's Task Force*, a nationwide, diverse and inclusive grassroots movement dedicated to organizing younger women and their allies to take action on issues that matter most to them.

Twenty-five years of age, Ms. Fleschner is uniquely suited to the challenges of this leadership position. A Summa Cum Laude Vanderbilt University graduate with a BS in Human and Organizational Development and Anthropology, Ms. Fleschner's academic interests took her to South Africa in 2002 where she participated in Duke University's Paleoanthropology Program in collaboration with the University of the Witwatersrand. This South African study focused on human evolution, a strong foundation for Ms. Fleschner's subsequent efforts in Africa; Ms. Fleschner was named the 2004 Vanderbilt Traveling Fellow, a research grant that Ms. Fleschner used to evaluate South African and Ugandan NGO's:

The Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, Johannesburg, South Africa  
The Nisaa Institute for Women's Development, Lenasia, South Africa  
The Saartje Baartman Center for Women and Children, Cape Town, South Africa  
The World Vision Rehabilitation Centre for Child Soldiers, Gulu, Uganda  
The Mercy Home for Street Children, Kampala, Uganda

This research fueled Ms. Fleschner's understanding of human rights abuses and specifically informed her appreciation of the global women's rights movement: in 2006, Ms. Fleschner was named a National Research Fellow in the Polaris Project to Combat Human Trafficking. Ms. Fleschner was then named Senior Program Assistant for Southern Africa for Population Services International. In the capacity of Senior Program Assistant, Ms. Fleschner managed the Zambia and Namibia platforms and spearheaded numerous presentations and proposals geared toward stimulating socially significant commerce in Africa. Prior to her May 2007 commencement as National Director for the *Younger Women's Task Force*, Ms. Fleschner served for the first woman Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi.

The outgoing National Director, Deva Kyle moves on to head the organization's coordinating board this June. Of Ms. Fleschner, Ms. Kyle, enthused, "she is an innovative organizer, and a motivational leader. Kristin will bring our young organization to new heights as she is far more than the sum of her achievements. She brings warmth of personality, charisma and intelligence to this challenging position."

In her own words, "I envision the Younger Women's Task Force as a space for women to address the complex and unique issues we face as younger women. The Younger Women's Task Force movement is unique because we are inclusive of all younger women, which allows us

to focus on both traditional feminist issues and issues that are not typically associated with the women's movement. Years from now, the Younger Women's task force will be identified as the former stomping ground of women leaders from every field."

Please visit [www.ywtf.org](http://www.ywtf.org) to learn more about the Younger Women's Task Force or contact Kristin Fleschner at 202-293-4505.