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For More Information:

Amy Rome, 314-533-0930
Jim O'Donnell, 636-530-0659

ELIZABETH GEORGE JOINS THE ROME GROUP
Former Foundation Executive Builds Firm's Organizational Development Expertise

ST. LOUIS, January 31, 2014..... Longtime local foundation executive Elizabeth George will join The Rome Group consulting firm on February 3 as Senior Consultant. In her new role, she will work with The Rome Group's founder, Amy Rome, and Senior Consultant Ellen Howe and Associate Michelle Fieldler to assist the firm's diverse nonprofit clientele with fundraising and strategic planning, leadership development, capital campaign strategy and ongoing counsel.

George served as a Vice President with Deaconess Foundation since 2004. She led the Foundation's "Deaconess Impact Partnership" capacity building program, providing local child-serving agencies with grant funding and technical assistance to help them build their leadership, management, and technical capacity. She also played a pivotal role in founding and leading the Regional Early Childhood Council and Leadership for Social Change.

"Elizabeth is one of our region's leading experts on organizational development and strategy for nonprofits," said Amy Rome, principal and founder of The Rome Group. "The broad range and depth of her experience will provide valuable assistance to our clients as we strive to help them succeed."

The Rome Group is the St. Louis area's leading consulting firm serving the nonprofit sector. It specializes in helping nonprofit organizations build capacity by planning for the future, focusing their development and fundraising efforts, and identifying opportunities for leadership, growth and success. The firm also hosts an annual Philanthropic Landscape event, which examines the state of the nonprofit sector, current trends and issues, and the prospects for fundraising in the year ahead.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for me to continue to help nonprofits build their strengths and increase their capacity to meet the needs of our community," said George. "As a foundation

representative, I have long admired the skill and dedication that The Rome Group brings to all of its work. I am excited to join such a dynamic and well-regarded organization.”

Before joining Deaconess Foundation, George was Director of Business Development for the Rensselaerville Institute from 2001 to 2004, Director of Washington University’s Career Center from 1999 to 2001, and Assistant Dean of Admissions at the University’s George Warren Brown School of Social Work from 1992 to 1999. She also served as an adjunct faculty member in the School of Social Work from 2003 to 2009.

In 2011, she helped launch the Regional Early Childhoods Council, a network of early childcare providers and policy makers in the St. Louis region. The Council’s focus is on building an integrated system for early care and raising awareness of the importance of including early care funding in state budgets and private philanthropy. The Council succeeded in securing a five-year, \$4.2 million federal grant to fund Project Launch, an initiative to improve wellness among children ages birth to 8 across a range of social, emotional, behavioral, physical and cognitive factors.

George holds a Masters in Social Work from Washington University, an MBA from Harvard Business School, and a BA from the University of Puget Sound. She and her family reside in University City.

Founded in 1991, The Rome Group is a woman-owned business located in the City of St. Louis. As one of the Midwest’s leading non-profit sector consultants, The Rome Group has worked with hundreds of non-profit and philanthropic organizations in the Midwest and throughout the country to build capacity, develop resources and create exciting actionable plans that move them toward their vision.

More information is available at www.theromegroup.com.