Dave McClure to Serve as Chair for the 2015 A Night for the Children Gala

AFCEA Bethesda’s Annual Charity Event to Support Three Children’s Charities

Bethesda, MD – September 9, 2014 – The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) Bethesda Chapter, a non-profit focused on fostering industry and federal civilian agency dialogue, partnership and IT innovation, today announced Dave McClure, the new Chief Strategist at Veris Group, will chair the 17th Annual A Night for the Children Gala, to be held on March 21, 2015.

McClure recently retired from government service as the Associate Administrator for the General Services Administration’s Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies, and has been a longstanding member of AFCEA Bethesda’s Advisory Council. He will team with Constance “Connie” Sayers – the new Vice President of Children’s Gala Operations for AFCEA Bethesda and President of Government Executive Media Group – to deliver the annual gala, which has raised more than $6 million from the federal IT community in support of the welfare, health and education of children.

“We are excited to welcome Dave McClure as chairperson this year. His leadership experience in both industry and government, as well as his proven commitment to AFCEA Bethesda’s mission make him the ideal candidate,” said Leslie Steele, President of AFCEA Bethesda. “Additionally, he will have the invaluable support and experience of Connie Sayers, who along with Government Executive Media Group, provides an extensive network and reach within the government IT community.”

A Night for the Children Gala, which helped to raise $550,000 for charities benefiting children’s health and welfare last year, is expanding its scope to benefit three charities in 2015 - DC House of Ruth, the Hope for Henry Foundation and the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund. The 2015 Gala marks the second year of support for DC House of Ruth, an organization that works with over 1,000 individuals a year, including 400 children whose ages range from six weeks to 18 years old. More than 250 children are sheltered at the DC House of Ruth as they recover from homelessness and abuse.

The Hope for Henry Foundation funds the salaries of full-time child life specialists who provide and promote comfort, care and recovery to children fighting cancer
and other serious illnesses at Children’s National Medical Center and MedStar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC.

Also benefitting from the gala, the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund is a non-profit organization that was founded in October 2003 as a means of providing college grants and financial assistance to the surviving children and spouses of U.S. military service members who have lost their lives in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

“We are proud to serve these charities that so closely align with the ideals of the Chapter and mission of Federal government,” said McClure. “For years, this event has demonstrated the power of the Federal IT community to make a positive difference in the lives of those around us. I am pleased to be working with Connie and the AFCEA Bethesda team on this event and look forward to serving these very deserving charities.”

For more information, please visit www.anightforthechildren.org.

ABOUT AFCEA BETHESDA
AFCEA Bethesda Chapter, founded in 1998, is a non-profit organization that encourages greater government/industry partnerships and fosters networking among its peers. In 2004, the Chapter formed a Young AFCEAN group whose goal is to foster an environment where young professionals from the private and public sectors can meet, interact, and learn from each other. AFCEA Bethesda has earned the distinguished honor of being awarded “Model Chapter of the Year” by AFCEA International since 2000. For additional information please visit http://www.afceabethesda.org.

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