



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NDI NAMES NEW DIRECTOR OF PHILANTHROPY**

WASHINGTON, DC – The National Democratic Institute (NDI), celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and seeking to broaden its network of international support, announced today that Stephen Whisnant, managing director for the United States Olympic Committee, has joined the Institute as director of philanthropy.

“We are pleased to welcome Steve to NDI,” said Kenneth Wollack, president of the Institute. “NDI will benefit greatly from his talents and experience as we seek to expand support for our democratic development mission. Steve has the expertise to help build upon our public-private partnerships and our alliances with the high-tech sector.”

Whisnant has an extensive background in development and general management in nonprofit work. He previously was the director for the U.S. Institute of Peace’s building campaign, served as vice president of development and investor relations at Venture Philanthropy Partners, and has advised a number of national and international organizations on development plans and operations. He spent 10 years at Harvard University as a senior development officer and advisor and was the first executive director of the Presidential and Democratic Party Victory Fund in support of the 1988 presidential race.

“I’m looking forward to building on the solid foundation of partnerships and relationships that NDI has established over the last 30 years to expand its philanthropic base,” Whisnant said.

Whisnant holds a B.A. from the University of North Carolina and a master’s in education from Harvard University. He serves as a trustee, director or advisor, respectively, for the Women’s Sports Foundation, World T.E.A.M. Sports, Outward Bound USA, PeacePlayers International and American HigherEducation.com. He has presented frequently at national conferences, contributes to regional and national publications, and he was awarded a Lyndhurst Prize by the Lyndhurst Foundation for his work and commitment to community service.

*The National Democratic Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nongovernmental organization working to support and strengthen democratic institutions worldwide through citizen participation, openness and accountability in government. More information is available at [www.ndi.org](http://www.ndi.org).*

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