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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Jennifer Lassiter Smith to Lead INMED's U.S. Programs**



STERLING, VA (June 11, 2019): INMED Partnerships for Children is pleased to announce that Jennifer Lassiter Smith has joined our team as Director of U.S. Programs. In this new role, she will expand the type and reach of INMED's services for children and families, including children with autism, in Loudoun County and beyond.

Smith also serves as the CEO of the Paxton Trust, where she has developed programs for children in need and has partnered with other nonprofits to develop new programs serving children in Loudoun. Previously, Smith was the Executive Director of The Arc of Loudoun, leading the organization to its home on the Paxton Campus. As founder of many of The Arc's programs, including The Aurora School, Open Door Learning Center and the ALLY (A Life Like Yours) Advocacy Center, Smith has provided education, opportunities and advocacy for people with disabilities and those who love them.

An experienced expert in strategic planning, program development and fundraising, Smith is the brainchild behind Paxton's wildly popular Shocktober haunted house event. She has a J.D. degree from George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School and a B.A. degree from San Diego State University.

"Jennifer's complementary experience serving children with special needs and brilliant ability to cultivate diverse and highly successful partnerships will be a great asset to our efforts to expand outreach and support for our programs," said Dr. Linda Pfeiffer, founder and CEO of INMED Partnerships for Children.

In addition to its local programs for disadvantaged children and families at the Family & Youth Opportunity Center in Sterling, INMED has worked in more than 100 countries to create pathways for disadvantaged children and families to achieve well-being and self-reliance. Through multisector partnerships, INMED's programs in climate-smart agriculture and aquaponics, maternal and child health, and economic development have transformed the lives of millions of children and their families globally since 1986. Smith will be bringing some of INMED's successful international initiatives to INMED's U.S. operations.

For more information and ways to become involved, please visit <https://inmed.org> and <https://opportunitycenter.us>.