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**ENDOMETRIOSIS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA NAMES CARI SIETSTRA, ACTING DIRECTOR, & CAROLYN GOLTRA, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**

**NEW YORK, NY -- The Endometriosis Foundation of America (EFA), [www.endofound.org](http://www.endofound.org), announced today that it has named Cari Sietstra, JD, Acting Director, and Carolyn Goltra, Director of Development, effective immediately.**

A consultant specializing in reproductive health, education and justice projects along both sides of the Thai/Burma border and in the United States, Ms. Sietstra has been involved in various initiatives of Ibis Reproductive Health and Burma Border Projects and is the founder and former executive director of Law Students for Reproductive Justice. She received an honors BA from Harvard University and earned her JD from Stanford University. At the recently launched EFA, Sietstra will lead the nonprofit in carrying out its mission of increasing endometriosis awareness, education, research and legislative advocacy.

Ms. Goltra comes to the Foundation with a strong background in medical fundraising, having served on several, nonprofit institution boards and also as a major gifts associate for Weill Cornell Medical Center. She has as well worked with ambulance networks promoting women's health in Peru and the West Bank. A Princeton University graduate, and currently a master's

candidate for social entrepreneurship at New York University, Goltra will coordinate with the EFA's Acting Director to build its individual and corporate fund-raising campaigns.

"With their extensive and successful backgrounds respectively in reproductive health, education and justice and also medical fundraising, Cari Sietstra and Carolyn Goltra are ideally suited for their positions," says Tamer Seckin, MD, cofounder.

"We look forward to the energetic and talented leadership they will add as Acting Director and Director of Development for our Foundation."

"I am excited and honored to come on board," says Ms. Sietstra.

"EFA's work to educate the public and medical professionals about endometriosis symptoms and treatment has the potential to reduce the silent suffering of millions of American women, while the Foundation's focus on treatment will help move forward all of our efforts to better understand and combat this often debilitating disease."

"I am thrilled to be part of an organization that was founded with as much passion and expertise as the Endometriosis Foundation of America," says Ms. Goltra.

"I believe that in the coming years we will be able to tangibly improve quality of life for the thousands of women who suffer in silence and their loved ones."

#### **About the Endometriosis Foundation of America--Mission & History**

The Endometriosis Foundation of America is a nonprofit organization focused on fighting against the devastating effects of a disease that affects millions of women and adolescent girls. Through increased

awareness, education, research and legislative advocacy, the EFA is committed to improving affected individuals' lives by early detection and treatment.

Padma Lakshmi and Dr. Tamer Seckin in April 2009 created a partnership to form the nonprofit Endometriosis Foundation of America to bring attention to this important issue. Endometriosis affects nearly 10 million women and adolescent girls in the United States and can cause debilitating menstrual periods, infertility and other health concerns. Ms Lakshmi, an actress, author and host of *Top Chef* has been treated for this condition by Dr. Tamer Seckin, MD, a laparoscopic surgeon and renowned endometriosis specialist.

For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation to the Endometriosis Foundation of America, please visit [www.endofound.org](http://www.endofound.org)