Michelle Sanchez Appointed Revoice Executive Director

ST. LOUIS, MO (December 1, 2023) — The Revoice team is delighted to announce the appointment of Rev. Michelle T. Sanchez as its new Executive Director, effective January 1, 2024. Sanchez, previously the Executive Minister of Make and Deepen Disciples at the Evangelical Covenant Church, brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to the Revoice mission.

Revoice President and Founder Nate Collins said, "We rejoice that God has led Michelle and Revoice to join together in our mission to advance God's Kingdom. Michelle is a world-class leader who possesses a tender compassion for sexual minorities that flows directly from her love for Jesus."

Founded in 2018, Revoice is a growing movement that supports and encourages Christians who are sexual minorities so they can flourish while observing the historic Christian doctrine of marriage and sexuality in their local faith communities. Revoice works year-round to bring hope, joy, and deep discipleship to thousands of LGBTQ+/SSA (same-sex-attracted) people—and those who love them—all around the world. Revoice has hosted six annual conferences, multiple virtual events, and discipleship groups in 23 cities. Revoice is also bringing transformation to churches across the country by coaching pastors and leaders who are shepherding approximately 230,000 congregants. With up to 20% of Gen Z youth now identifying as LGBTQ+ in 2023 (according to Gallup), Revoice's work is both essential and poised for significant future growth.

The Revoice Board of Directors expressed their unanimous support for Sanchez's appointment: "We have invited Michelle to become Executive Director of Revoice with great joy. Throughout our interview process, God made it clear that Michelle is an excellent fit with Revoice's vision, mission, and values. We believe that Michelle is uniquely equipped with the skills and experiences necessary to increase the depth and breadth of Revoice's impact in the Church and the world."

"I am humbled and thrilled beyond words for the opportunity to serve Revoice, and I see it as a direct extension of my commitment to foster deeper discipleship to our King Jesus," Sanchez said. "It's hard to imagine a more meaningful, relevant, and timely mission to devote my life to in this generation—as well as a more wonderful group of friends and colleagues to journey with. The future of Revoice is beautiful and bright."

In addition to serving on the Revoice Advisory Council, Sanchez has been a keynote speaker and workshop presenter at several Revoice conferences, demonstrating a fervent commitment to the same core values that animate the mission of Revoice.

Sanchez comes to Revoice after serving in full-time ministry for over two decades in a variety of contexts, including campus ministry, local church ministry, and national denominational leadership. In her most recent role as Executive Minister of Make and Deepen Disciples for the Evangelical Covenant Church, Sanchez oversaw the development of resources, events, and generational ministries to foster discipleship throughout the denomination. An integral aspect of her leadership was the launch of the Embrace initiative, a suite of human sexuality discipleship resources in harmony with the historic Christian doctrine on human sexuality. A special emphasis of Embrace was to equip the church to flourish in love for sexual minority individuals and communities.

Sanchez previously worked as an Investment Banker with Goldman Sachs and has served in various capacities with the Lausanne movement for world evangelization. In addition to her organizational leadership roles, Sanchez has been a popular speaker, delivering plenary addresses at events such as the Theology in the Raw Conference (2023), the Mosaix Conference (2022), and the Torrey Memorial Bible Conference at Biola University (2012).

Sanchez is the author of <u>Color-Courageous Discipleship: Follow Jesus, Dismantle Racism, and Build Beloved Community</u> (with editions for students and adults), as well as a picture book for children, <u>God's Beloved Community</u>. She is delighted for the opportunity to partner with Revoice in its commitment to advance ethnic diversity, equity, and inclusion. Sanchez's writings have also appeared in <u>Outreach Magazine</u>, Faith & Leadership, Missio Alliance, Mutuality, The Priscilla Papers, The Message Women's Devotional Bible (2025), and beyond.

An ordained minister, Sanchez completed seminary degrees at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, spiritual direction training at Boston College, and field studies on the life and times of Jesus at Jerusalem University College. Prior to that, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Management and International Business from New York University's Stern School of Business. Deeply passionate about global and intercultural engagement, Sanchez has thoroughly enjoyed experiencing colorful cultures in thirty-eight countries and territories worldwide. She and her husband, Mickey, live with their two children in greater Chicago.

About Revoice

The mission of Revoice is to support and encourage gay, lesbian, bisexual, and other same-sex-attracted Christians—as well as those who love them—so that all in the Church might be empowered to live in gospel unity while observing the historic Christian doctrine of marriage and sexuality. Revoice was founded in 2018 when a group of Christians gathered to support and encourage each other in their faith. Most of them were gay/same-sex-attracted, and all of them believed that the Christian faith required them to live within the confines of a traditional sexual ethic. That first conference, and each of the events that have followed in subsequent years, was marked by joyful community, Spirit-filled worship, and challenging discipleship. With up to 20% of Gen Z youth now identifying as LGBTQ+ in 2023 (according to Gallup), Revoice's work is both timely and essential. Visit the Revoice website to read its statement of faith and statement on sexual ethics and Christian obedience.

About the Revoice Conference

The annual Revoice Conference is an opportunity for LGBTQ+/SSA Christians to experience safety, community, and fellowship with Jesus Christ. The next Revoice Conference will be held June 26-29, 2024, in Columbus, Ohio. The 2024 conference theme is "Masterpiece" and will center on Ephesians 2:10 which declares that we are all God's masterpiece, fashioned by God to do good works for God and with God. Join us and learn more at revoice.org/conference.