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**NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION DRAWS ON EXPERTISE OF CONSERVANCY FOR CVNP
PRESIDENT AND CEO DEB YANDALA**

PENINSULA, OH (December 9, 2021) Deb Yandala, president and CEO of the Conservancy (Conservancy) for CVNP, has been hired, on a temporary contract basis, by the National Park Foundation (NPF), the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service. Yandala will continue her role at the Conservancy while working with NPF.

Yandala, who has led the Conservancy for nearly 20 years, is lending her counsel and expertise to a variety of NPF education, partnership, and philanthropic initiatives. Chartered by Congress in 1967, the NPF is rooted in a legacy that began more than a century ago, when private citizens from all walks of life took action to establish and protect national parks. Today, the NPF carries on that tradition as the only national charitable nonprofit whose mission is to directly support the National Park Service.

“Deb’s appointment to the National Park Foundation is a testament to her leadership and the vital role the Conservancy has played in raising the visibility of CVNP within Northeast Ohio and beyond,” said Phil LiBassi, board chair, Conservancy for CVNP. CVNP was the nation’s #7 most visited National Park in 2020.

The Conservancy has raised philanthropic dollars to complete a number of projects that support conservation, preservation, and enhanced visitor access to CVNP. This includes CVNP’s first full-service visitor center in Boston Mills and, most recently, the purchase of the former Brandywine Golf Course.

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About the Conservancy

The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is the official friends group and philanthropic partner for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). With a mission to enrich people’s lives and enhance our region by inspiring use, preservation and support of Cuyahoga Valley National Park, the Conservancy offers cultural and educational programming, co-manages the park’s volunteer program, provides venues for weddings, meetings, and special events, and operates park retail spaces.