



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Marian Wright Edelman Statement on the loss of Evelyn S. Lieberman**

My heart is broken by the passing of Evelyn Lieberman, our longtime friend and valued colleague, my three-doors-away neighbor, and former highly-skilled Children's Defense Fund (CDF) director of communications from 1981-1988.

Evelyn was a funny, no-nonsense, get-to-the-point colleague who tried to whip me and her CDF colleagues into shape to be the best possible messengers and child advocates for children left behind. She was a tough, very smart and strategic colleague, and a very kind, loyal and loving friend. My last glimpse of her was of her walking up my steps to put a generous check through my mailbox to support children beating the odds. She fled before I could run and say thanks. She left us much too soon but her footprints and spirit will remain and enhance our ongoing advocacy for our nation's children.

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The [Children's Defense Fund](http://www.childrensdefense.org) Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start* and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.