



MEMO

To: ACF Board of Trustees
From: Marisa Magallanez, President & CEO
Date: June 18, 2026
Re: Staffing Update – Vice President of Development

I am pleased to share that we have selected Dawne Bell to serve as the Foundation's Vice President of Development.

Dawne brings more than 20 years of nonprofit and philanthropic leadership experience, including service as a CEO, executive director, chief development officer, and statewide nonprofit leader. Throughout her career, she has raised more than \$80 million through major gifts, planned giving, donor-advised funds, corporate partnerships, and foundation grants, while leading organizational growth, strategic planning, and board engagement efforts.

Several aspects of Dawne's background stood out throughout the interview process. She brings direct community foundation experience, including significant work growing donor-advised funds, assets, and philanthropic partnerships. She has demonstrated success building fundraising infrastructure, strengthening donor stewardship systems, activating boards in philanthropy, and leading development teams through periods of growth and change. Her experience spans both local and national philanthropy, and she has a strong understanding of trust-based philanthropy, intermediary funding, and community leadership.

Equally important, Dawne demonstrated strong alignment with our culture, values, and vision for the future. Throughout the process, she impressed Trustees, staff, and leadership team members with her thoughtful leadership style, strategic perspective, and commitment to building authentic relationships. As a former Albuquerque nonprofit leader, she also brings meaningful knowledge of our community and a genuine enthusiasm for returning to New Mexico and contributing to the Foundation's next chapter.

I would like to thank those Trustees who participated in the interview process and provided valuable feedback. I am excited about the leadership, experience, and energy Dawne will bring to our organization as we continue strengthening philanthropy, growing assets, and deepening our impact across New Mexico.

Dawne's anticipated start date is August 10, 2026. We are thrilled to welcome her to the team, and I look forward to her connecting with the Board.