

News Release

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The Women's Fund of Central Ohio Announces New President and Chief Executive Officer

Visionary community leader Kelley Griesmer to lead the organization

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Women's Fund of Central Ohio's Board of Directors is excited to announce Kelley Griesmer as the organization's new President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). A visionary leader, Griesmer will build on the momentum of the organization to grow grantmaking, advocacy, and research initiatives focused on economic empowerment and leadership for women and girls in Central Ohio.

"As the board searched for the organization's next CEO, we were looking for a visionary who could channel passion into strategy, to influence action. The Fund wanted a proven leader who could build connections throughout the community to create more opportunities for women and girls. And, Kelley is that leader," said Angela Petro, chair, board of directors. "As a former board member of the Fund – serving 10 years, including as board chair – Kelley is deeply committed to social change, gender equity, and inclusivity and has repeatedly demonstrated this commitment," Petro added.

Griesmer has dedicated her career to meaningful work. With an overwhelming urge to make a difference and uplift the people in our community who needed it the most, Griesmer left a 13-year legal career at Jones Day to serve as Pelotonia's first chief operating officer, where she helped the organization raise over \$106 million in 7 years. Most recently, Griesmer served on the leadership team at The Columbus Foundation as senior vice president where she ensured all voices were brought to the table through the launch of The Big Table, Kind Columbus, and other online philanthropic initiatives.

"Kelley made many contributions to our community from her position at The Columbus Foundation, and was a valued colleague. We wholeheartedly support this move and wish Kelley and our valued partners at The Women's Fund of Central Ohio great success in the years ahead," shared Doug Kridler, president and CEO, The Columbus Foundation.

Griesmer's proven credentials, passion, and dedication in engaging all people across a wide spectrum of beliefs, ethnicities, and social and economic backgrounds will guide her leadership at The Women's Fund, where she will help grow the community's passion for investing in social change and show why the democratization of philanthropy matters.

"It's an honor to lead an organization whose mission I've steadfastly supported for many years," said Kelley Griesmer. "I am thrilled to join a team doing incredible and impactful work on behalf of the women and girls in our community. I look forward to advancing gender equality, building connections to accelerate impact, and ensuring that all voices and all people are heard as we tackle the critical challenges facing women and girls in this era," she added.

Griesmer will start her new role on December 17, 2018.

About The Women's Fund of Central Ohio

The Women's Fund of Central Ohio is fiercely committed to igniting social change for the sake of gender equality. We do this by sparking conversation, connecting people and organizations, and influencing opportunities for the economic empowerment and leadership of women and girls. Through the pillars of our work – grantmaking, advocacy, research, partnerships, and community education – we create change for women and girls. Learn more: womensfundcentralohio.org

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