Advancement Team

Dave McGowan, CFRE
President & CEO
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Dave has served as chief staff officer of DuPage Foundation since 1998. With 39 years of fundraising, grantmaking and not-for-profit management experience in the Chicago metropolitan area, he helps area donors and their advisors accomplish their philanthropic objectives. He focuses on outright and deferred gifts of appreciated property from individuals and on demonstrating the lasting contributions of endowed funds. Dave graduated cum laude from Northern Illinois University and earned a master’s in management and development of human resources from National-Louis University. Dave received the 2009 West Suburban Philanthropic Network Distinguished Service Award. Dave and his wife, Mary, have a grandson who is the fifth generation to live in DuPage.

Mike Sitrick, JD, CFRE
Vice President for Advancement
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Mike works closely with individuals, families, businesses and their advisors to help them plan and accomplish their unique charitable goals. His areas of focus include donor-advised funds, community and not-for-profit endowments, charitable gift annuities and gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stock, mutual funds, retirement assets (including IRA QCDs), insurance, real estate and closely-held business interests. He graduated magna cum laude from Millikin University with a bachelor’s degree in business management and earned his Juris Doctor from Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Mike is an active member of the DuPage County Estate Planning Council and the DuPage County Bar Association (DCBA). He is a recipient of two DCBA Directors’ Awards and an inaugural recipient of the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce’s “Four Under 40” Award.

Alice Wood, JD
Director of Gift Planning
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Alice works closely with donors and advisors who want to help their clients maximize the impact of their charitable giving while simplifying the process. Alice graduated from DePaul College of Law and has represented more than 1,000 families as an estate planning attorney. Alice is the author of three books including the critically acclaimed Wealth Watchers – A Simple Program to Spend Less and Save More published by Simon & Schuster. She has served on several not-for-profit boards and has a deep appreciation of the lasting legacy that comes from charitable giving. Alice is a Naperville native with multi-generational ties to DuPage County. She credits her parents, Warren and Doris Wood as well as her grandfather, the Honorable Win G. Knoch, who had been a well-known leader in philanthropy throughout DuPage County, for sparking her passion for service.

Kait Balsewicz, CFRE
Development Officer
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Kait works closely with donors and Foundation partners to foster philanthropy throughout DuPage County and beyond. In her role, she concentrates on all aspects of donor engagement, serves as staff lead for the Next Generation Initiative, manages Foundation events, including the annual benefit, and leads data management for the Foundation’s advancement team. Kait is proud and humbled to work with the community her family has called “home” for generations. Kait is an active volunteer with Bridge Communities and is on the Alumni Board for her alma mater, St. Norbert College. In 2020, Kait was named Nonprofit Professional Rising Star of the Year by the West Suburban Philanthropic Network.