



NORTH DAKOTA  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

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## **ND Community Foundation President & CEO to Retire After 37 Years**

Bismarck, ND—Kevin Dvorak, President & CEO of the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF), has announced that he will retire at the end of 2025 after 37 years at the organization.

“It has been an honor and a privilege to lead this foundation for most of my career,” said Dvorak. “I am especially proud of our work to support rural communities through our grantmaking and in building our 69 local community endowment funds. It has been ‘work worth doing’, but the time has come for the next chapter of my life. The Foundation has never been stronger and the next CEO, whomever that will be, will take it to new levels of relevance and usefulness for the citizens of North Dakota.”

Dvorak began work at NDCF in 1989 as a Program Officer and became President and CEO in 1995. He is only the third President and CEO in the organization’s history, succeeding Dr. Richard Timmins and the original Executive Director (and former ND Governor) William L. Guy. Established in 1976, NDCF is considered one of the first statewide community foundations in the country.

Under his leadership, NDCF has grown from \$5 million to more than \$160 million in charitable assets and made grants in excess of \$118 million supporting North Dakota communities, schools, and nonprofit organizations. Its staff size has also increased during his tenure from two employees to 11. The organization now has offices in Bismarck, Dickinson, Larimore, and Wahpeton.

“Kevin has been an incredible leader, not just at NDCF, but in the entire nonprofit world of North Dakota and this region,” said NDCF Board Chair Chantel Southam. “We are thankful for his many years of service; he is leaving this foundation in a very strong position.”

Dvorak is a North Dakota native with a BS in Social and Behavioral Sciences from the University of Mary. He is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® and has been active in numerous organizations during his career. He is a member and past president of the Bismarck Rotary Club and the Leadership Bismarck Mandan Alumni Association. He has served for more than a decade as the president of the Western Dakota Estate Planning Council and is a member of the Diocese of Bismarck Finance Council. He is also an active member of the ND Association of Nonprofit Organizations Public Policy Committee.

Part of Dvorak’s legacy is the implementation of the North Dakota 40% income tax credit for gifts to qualified North Dakota endowment funds. Dvorak helped lead the team that crafted and vetted the proposed legislation, traveling across the state for nine months to speak with nonprofit leaders and get their input. The legislation passed both the North Dakota House and Senate unanimously in 2007.

“That legislation made a tremendous impact in our state nonprofit sector,” said Dana Schaar Jahner who was Executive Director of the North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations at the time. “It encouraged North Dakotans to keep their charitable dollars in our state, to help our own residents and those in need, and has increased charitable giving by millions of dollars.”

NDCF is governed by a Board of Directors, made up of 15 volunteers from across the state. A transition team has been appointed to lead the search for Dvorak’s successor.

The North Dakota Community Foundation is a public, non-profit tax-exempt corporation which receives and distributes charitable funds to support a wide range of programs that improve the quality of life for North Dakotans. NDCF currently manages more than 950 funds for various North Dakota communities and donors, including 69 community foundations and more than 200 scholarship funds. It holds assets in excess of \$160 million and has made more than \$118 million in grants all across North Dakota.

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