

**Kate Bousum, CFRE**  
**Vice President of Philanthropy, Aspire**

Kate Bousum leads with a deep commitment to family, kindness, meaningful connection, and communication. These values fuel her passion for the nonprofit sector, where she supports individuals, families, and fellow nonprofit professionals.

Kate serves as the Vice President for Philanthropy at Aspire, a nonprofit dedicated to connecting people with disabilities to safe homes, jobs, and exciting learning opportunities. Kate leads and develops a high-performing team, building strong relationships to advance the organization's philanthropic goals and inspire communities where people of all abilities live, learn, and work together.

With nearly 25 years of experience in nonprofit leadership, fundraising, events, and grants, Kate's career has spanned higher education, social services, and education in both small and large teams.

Kate holds a degree in Communications and Public Relations from Purdue University and a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) designation. She has completed the Civic Leadership Academy through Northern Illinois University with special endorsements in both Nonprofits and Community Development.

Kate has received recognition and awards in the nonprofit sector including the West Suburban Philanthropic Network (WSPN) President's Award, the Benjamin Franklin Award by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Chicago Chapter for, "*Significant achievements in a long career who serves as a role model for our profession,*" and the Under 40 Leadership Award for Nonprofits by the Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce. She has presented at workshops and conferences for organizations including the Association of Fundraising Professionals - Chicago Chapter, West Suburban Philanthropic Network, Faith in Fundraising national conference, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Conference, and to OPTIONS professionals on a variety of fundraising and development related topics.

Kate is actively involved in several professional organizations, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals Chicago Chapter, where she serves on the Continuous Learning Council and as faculty member and coordinator for the Fundamentals of Fundraising. She is also engaged with the West Suburban Philanthropic Network and the Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce.