

**Kimberly Vann**, Director of Development, Safer Foundation

As Director of Development at the Safer Foundation, Kimberly Vann administers the organization's grant seeking process from prospect research to proposal writing to funder/donor relationship cultivation. She also manages annual internal and external fundraising efforts. Safer is one of the nation's largest not-for-profit providers of employment placement and job readiness training, exclusively targeting people with criminal records. Kimberly is committed to building relationships beneficial to organizations by creating an environment of trust and collaboration among internal and external stakeholders.

Prior to joining to Safer, she served as Associate Director, Communications and Education, at the Illinois Nurses Association (INA), where she developed marketing campaigns as well as produced continuing education programs. Before INA, Kimberly served as Communications Coordinator in the American Bar Association Division for Bar Services, where she created print and online communications, managed award programs and served as a staff liaison for communications, diversity and sponsorship committees.

Kimberly received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Communications from Columbia College Chicago. She is a past recipient of the Association Forum of Chicagoland Workforce Diversity Scholarship. Kimberly has authored articles on mentoring, diversity and communications which have appeared in local and national association publications. She has produced and moderated workshops for the Philanthropy Club of Chicago and the Imagining America National Gathering.

Upon transitioning from a career in communications to fundraising, Kimberly joined the AFP Chicago Chapter in 2015 and became an active member. In 2016, she was accepted as a protégé in the AFP Peer Mentoring Program and named an AFP Fellow one year later. In December 2019, Kimberly was elected to the AFP Chicago Board of Directors.