



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation Announces New Staff Hires in 2023
Foundation adds Gary Stark, Sarah Truax, Sheila O'Hara, Faye Radcliffe, and Danielle Wilder-Hamilton to the staff; and promotes Nena Taormino

Detroit, MI – The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation today announced the addition of five new staff members in 2023. The new hires and positions include Gary Stark, director of grant operations; Sarah Truax, learning associate; Faye Radcliffe, program executive assistant; Danielle Wilder-Hamilton, executive assistant; and Sheila O'Hara, office manager. These new hires bring the Foundation's full-time staff total to 27 employees. The Foundation also announced the promotion of Nena Taormino from grants management & operations assistant to the role of grants management associate.

"Our Foundation team is delighted to welcome new talent that not only upholds our mission but also brings fresh expertise, enriching our collective skillset and reinforcing our adaptability and effectiveness," said David O. Egner, president & CEO, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.

Gary Stark, the Foundation's newly appointed director of grant operations, brings over 10 years of experience in grants and finance. In his role he will oversee activities supporting program teams, grantees, and overall Foundation operations across all focus areas, striving to institutionalize processes and ensure clarity and openness in program and finance matters. With a background in impactful investments, including previous experience as the manager of investment operations at Beaumont Health, Stark holds a BA in Accounting from Michigan State University and an MBA in Finance and Investments from the University of Detroit Mercy.

Sarah Truax has transitioned into the newly established learning associate role at the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, following the successful completion of her two-year fellowship sponsored by the Council for Michigan Foundation (CMF). During her fellowship, Truax played a pivotal role in enhancing the Foundation's grantmaking initiatives and actively participated in professional development opportunities facilitated by CMF and its partners. Truax's commitment to philanthropy led her to specialize in learning and evaluation. In her new capacity, she will collaborate closely with the senior learning officer, overseeing evaluations and studies, and coordinating Foundation-wide learning activities.

Bringing twenty plus years of administrative support expertise, **Faye Radcliffe** has assumed the role of executive assistant to the program team at the Foundation, transitioning from her previous position as an Administrative Assistant at Wayne State University. In this capacity, Radcliffe will provide essential support to the program team by coordinating meeting logistics, managing correspondence, as well as collaborating with other executive assistants to ensure a seamless workflow. Radcliffe holds an ABA from Macomb Community College, a BPA from Wayne State University, and is currently pursuing an MBA at Wayne State University.



In her new position as executive assistant to the president and CEO and the executive team, **Danielle Wilder-Hamilton**, will provide comprehensive administrative support, managing schedules, coordinating meetings, processing expense reports, and ensuring efficient office operations. Wilder-Hamilton joins us from Ascension Michigan, where she served for 28 years. Wilder-Hamilton brings with her 27 years of administrative experience. She also currently serves as the director for the Southeast Michigan branch of the International Association of Administrative Professionals and is a member of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc. Wilder-Hamilton holds an associate degree in general studies from Macomb Community College.

Sheila O'Hara joins the Foundation as the new office manager, leveraging over 15 years of administrative experience. Reporting directly to the vice president of finance and administration, O'Hara will ensure the office runs smoothly, efficiently, and serves as the first point of contact for visitors. With an extensive background as an executive assistant, office manager, and director of production, she brings a wealth of expertise in managing operations, finances, and coordination. She holds a degree in marketing from Webster University.

Nena Taormino joined the Foundation in 2021 as an operations assistant, then as a grants and operations assistant, and now she has taken on the role of grants management associate. In her new role, Taormino will report directly to the director of grant operations, playing a pivotal role in supporting the grants manager and program staff. Responsible for reviewing, processing, and tracking grant and consultant agreements, amendments, and payments, Taormino will also be integral in preparing correspondence and reports. Collaborating closely with the grants manager and the finance and administration team, Taormino will contribute significantly to the Foundation's daily operations.

###

ABOUT THE RALPH C. WILSON, JR. FOUNDATION:

The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation is a grantmaking organization dedicated primarily to sustained investment in the quality of life of the people of Southeast Michigan and Western New York. The two areas reflect the devotion of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. to his hometown of Detroit and greater Buffalo, home of his beloved Buffalo Bills NFL team. Prior to his passing in 2014, Mr. Wilson provided that a significant share of his estate be used to continue a life-long generosity of spirit by funding the Foundation that bears his name. Based in Detroit, the Foundation began with a grantmaking capacity of \$1.2 billion over a 20-year period, which expires January 8, 2035. This structure is consistent with Mr. Wilson's desire for the Foundation's impact to be immediate, substantial, measurable, and overseen by those who knew him best. For more information visit www.rcwjrf.org.



RALPH C. WILSON, JR.
FOUNDATION

MEDIA CONTACT:

Carly Strachan

Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

313.460.8100

Carly.Strachan@RCWJRF.org