COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
Working Together to Build Strong Communities

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Nov. 3, 2026
Subject: Community Partnership of the Ozarks Welcomes Jen Wasem as Vice President of Philanthropy
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Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO) is pleased to announce the appointment of Jen Wasem as its new Vice President of Philanthropy. Wasem brings more than 20 years of nonprofit experience and an extensive background in fundraising, corporate partnerships and philanthropic strategy to the organization's executive leadership team.

Throughout her career, Wasem has helped drive more than $300 million in philanthropic impact, including developing strategy for a $150 million partnership portfolio. Her experience spans major gifts, corporate partnerships, workplace giving and national fundraising campaigns, with a focus on building lasting relationships between nonprofit organizations, donors and community partners.

As Vice President of Philanthropy, Wasem will lead CPO's philanthropic strategy, strengthening donor relationships, expanding corporate and community partnerships, and identifying new opportunities for charitable investment to support the organization's mission of building resilient children, healthy families and strong neighborhoods and communities.

"Jen brings an impressive combination of experience, strategic vision and a genuine passion for nonprofit philanthropy, and we are thrilled to have her join our team," **said Janet Dankert, President and CEO of Community Partnership of the Ozarks.** "Her ability to build meaningful partnerships and connect philanthropic investment with community needs will be invaluable as we continue expanding our impact across the Ozarks."

Before relocating to Southwest Missouri, Wasem spent more than two decades working with nonprofit organizations in Northwest Arkansas, including 7Hills Homeless Center, Samaritan Community Center and the American Cancer Society. She also worked extensively with Walmart's corporate headquarters and consumer packaged goods companies to develop cause-related marketing partnerships supporting the American Cancer Society's mission.

"I'm thrilled to return to community-based nonprofit work and join an organization making such a meaningful difference right here in the Ozarks**," said Wasem**. "CPO's commitment to serving our neighbors is extraordinary, and I'm excited to build on that foundation by expanding philanthropic partnerships, strengthening donor relationships and creating new opportunities for community investment. Together, we can ensure CPO continues delivering programs and services that make a lasting impact on the people and communities we serve."

Wasem's approach to philanthropy emphasizes trust, strong donor stewardship and aligning charitable investment with the passions of donors and the needs of the community. In her new role, she will help strengthen the philanthropic partnerships and resources that sustain CPO's programs and services throughout Southwest Missouri.

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ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS: *Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO) is a regional nonprofit organization dedicated to building resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities. Through collaboration, innovative programming, strategic partnerships, and resource development, CPO brings people and organizations together to address the Ozarks' most pressing challenges and create lasting community impact. Learn more about CPO's programs, partnerships, and initiatives at* ***www.cpozarks.org***