

Silicon Valley Community Foundation Appoints New CEO

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Nicole Taylor, former president and CEO of the East Bay Community Foundation, has been named president and CEO of the largest community foundation in the United States. The Silicon Valley Community Foundation in Mountain View, California, has announced the selection of Taylor as its new president and CEO, effective December 19.

A Stanford graduate, Taylor served as that university's associate vice provost and dean of community engagement and diversity before moving to Arizona State University. Currently a vice president at the ASU Foundation, Taylor spent more than fifteen years with the East Bay Community Foundation, eventually serving as its president and CEO for six years. She also served on the board of the Federal Reserve of San Francisco for six years and currently is a board member of Common Sense Media and the T. Gary and Kathleen Rogers Family Foundation.

"I am thrilled to be coming to SVCF and back to Silicon Valley. My roots are in the Bay Area nonprofit and philanthropic sectors, and I have lived in this region most of my adult life," said Taylor. "Silicon Valley is a region of contrasts, one in which deep social challenges are often masked by the high-profile innovation culture. There is important work to be done in partnership with our donors, our community organizations, and our civic and business leaders, and I am excited about the issues and challenges the organization is looking to tackle. I'm honored for the opportunity to join SVCF's dedicated staff and help further its mission."

Earlier this year, SVCF's founding president and CEO, Emmett Carson, was terminated in the wake of allegations that he had ignored the growth of a "toxic" workplace culture at the foundation as it amassed a multibillion-dollar endowment. In April, allegations of inappropriate behavior and widespread workplace culture issues within the organization were made public, leading to the resignations of chief business development and brand officer Mari Ellen Loijens and vice president of talent recruitment and culture Daiva Natochy.

"It has been an honor and tremendous experience to come back to SVCF and lead the organization over the past six months," said interim president Greg Avis. "With Nicole's leadership experience and commitment to serving local communities, I know SVCF will continue to make a profound impact. I am confident that SVCF's talented staff will flourish under her guidance. I look forward to working with Nicole over the coming months as she transitions into the role."
