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Haiar named SDHSF Development Director

PIERRE, S.D. – Kimberly Haiar has been named development director for the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation. She will be the primary fundraiser for the foundation, which is the nonprofit fundraising partner of the South Dakota State Historical Society in Pierre.

Haiar will be based in Sioux Falls and will be working throughout South Dakota to support events and to obtain funding that will benefit the State Historical Society. That includes annual giving, major giving and planned giving efforts.

"Kimberly brings a wealth of experience in fundraising to this newly created position," said Foundation President Michael Lewis. "Although the South Dakota State Historical Society is a state agency, state funding does not provide sufficient funds for all the projects that the State Historical Society would like to undertake. The foundation raises money for these projects, such as obtaining grants to place photographs from the State Archives on the South Dakota Digital Archives, thus enabling people to search images online."

Haiar's previous position was enterprise director of annual giving for Sanford Health Foundation in Sioux Falls. As such, she oversaw all annual giving events, campaigns and staff for Sanford Health. During her nearly 10 years at Sanford, she was instrumental in growing the Children's Miracle Network initiatives. The Sioux Falls Children's Miracle Network was named the top small market fundraiser in North America for the past seven years.

"I've lived in South Dakota since the age of 3, living in both West River and East River," Haiar said. "I love the history of South Dakota and the values of the people. I'm excited to further the foundation's mission of 'Keeping South Dakota History Alive."

Haiar and her family lived in White River for five years when her mother taught school there. She graduated from high school in Mitchell. She has lived in Sioux Falls for 23 years. Her husband, Jim Haiar, is a captain with Sioux Falls Fire Rescue. They are the parents of two adult sons, Eric and Dan.

Haiar may be contacted at (605) 366-4873 or at kimberly.haiar@state.sd.us.

The SDHSF is based out of the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. It is governed by a nine-member board of directors. Board members are John Teupel, Spearfish, chairman; Gary Heintz, Pierre, vice chairman; Brian Gatzke, Brookings, treasurer; Connie Schroeder, Miller, secretary; and Jacque Fuller, Lead; Vicki McLain, Rapid City; Carey Miller, Sioux Falls; Curt Mortenson, Fort Pierre; and Noel Hamiel, Reliance.

About the South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.

About the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation

The South Dakota Historical Society Foundation is a private charitable nonprofit that seeks funding to assist the South Dakota State Historical Society in programming and projects to preserve South Dakota's history and heritage for future generations.