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## **Sioux Falls woman to lead fundraising efforts of South Dakota Historical Society Foundation**

PIERRE, S.D. – Catherine Forsch of Sioux Falls has joined the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation as development director.

As the director of development, Forsch will lead efforts in fundraising for special projects for the South Dakota State Historical Society and for the foundation. The foundation is the nonprofit fundraising partner of the State Historical Society. Both are based at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

“I will have an opportunity to share the story of our state’s history and build lasting relationships with individuals, foundations, corporations and government entities throughout South Dakota that are committed to preserving South Dakota’s rich history,” Forsch said. “Through meetings, tours and events, I will help educate and secure long-term support for the foundation and the State Historical Society’s programs.”

Forsch is well-suited for her new role as she has almost 25 years of experience in marketing and fundraising, according to foundation President Michael Lewis.

Forsch is a Georgia native but has lived in Sioux Falls for 25 years. A major in journalism and mass communications at South Dakota State University in Brookings prepared her for a career in marketing and advertising. She worked at the Sioux Falls Argus Leader for 11 years before going to work for nonprofits. Forsch has previously worked for Sanford Health Foundation, South Dakota Lions Foundation and EmBe, all in Sioux Falls.

“In the philanthropic environment, I have been able to work every day on something that I care deeply about and am able to give back to my community,” Forsch said. “Whether it has been raising money for a child to go to camp at EmBe or thanking a donor for funding life-changing research at Sanford Health, the work has been rewarding.”

Forsch is past president of the South Dakota Association for Fundraising Professionals and serves as a cabinet member for the Sioux Empire United Way. She also volunteers at her church and for a variety of nonprofits.

Forsch will continue to live in Sioux Falls and have an office in both Pierre and Sioux Falls. She and her husband Tim have two children. Jason lives in Pierre and Lauren in Sioux Falls.

For more information about the foundation, please call (605) 773-3458.

***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](http://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.*