



January 7, 2022

Dear Friends of Denver Institute,

Today we, the Denver Institute for Faith & Work (DIFW) board of directors, announce that Jeff Haanen, founder and CEO, will transition the CEO role to a new leader in 2022.

This leadership handoff was initiated by Jeff and comes after 10 years of dedicated service to the organization. We have already begun preparing to conduct a search for the next leader. Jeff will continue as CEO until a successor is named later this year. DIFW is poised for a new season of expanding reach and impact, and with the Lord's leading, we are excited to find the right successor.

The board wishes to express its deep gratitude to Jeff for his visionary and courageous leadership of submitting to Christ's call on his life that led to the formation and establishment of DIFW. We have all been greatly blessed through his work.

Under Jeff's leadership, DIFW has grown into an influential nonprofit organization with deep roots in Colorado's Front Range and an expanding audience across the U.S. and around the world. Since its founding in 2012, DIFW has hosted more than 10,000 people at local events and gatherings on topics ranging from architecture to K-12 education. In October, our Women, Work & Calling event saw unprecedented participation with 225 in-person attendees and more than 650 virtual attendees representing 25 countries. The 5280 Fellowship has invested deeply in six classes of Denverites, developing 125 emerging leaders, and will be operating in two additional U.S. cities by the end of 2022. Additionally, DIFW has significantly expanded its influence through strategic investments in media. The Faith & Work Classroom, DIFW's online learning platform, recently launched a partnership with RightNow Media, and the Faith & Work Podcast celebrates more than 50,000 downloads since its launch in 2018.

This announcement comes during a season of strength and growth for the organization, and Jeff has positioned DIFW well for a leadership change. We recently added two new leadership roles (in development and operations) to our staff of 11. A deeply committed community of donors makes the work of Denver Institute possible and sustainable. The board believes DIFW is poised to capitalize on its expanding reach and influence beyond Colorado. We also remain committed to investing deeply in serving the Front Range region and contributing to the national faith and work movement.

Board Chair Bob Larkin offers this reflection on the impact of Jeff's time at the helm:

“It is impossible to adequately express my personal appreciation for the impact that Jeff and DIFW has had on my life. It reflects Jeff's courageous and sacrificial approach that he freely offers DIFW to the Lord's service and direction in the next phase of its growth. Our board of directors remains committed to the mission of forming men and women to serve God, neighbor, and society through our daily work. We are doubling down on our long-term vision for this work and invite DIFW's community of learners and givers to journey with us as we enter a new season.”

We invite questions or comments about this announcement at boardchair@denverinstitute.org.

Thank you for your continued investment in DIFW and our shared calling to love God, serve our neighbors, and demonstrate the gospel through our work.

Sincerely,

Bob Larkin, Chair
Jill Anschutz, Secretary
Adam Hasemeyer, Treasurer
Jeanne Kim
Doug Smith
Darius Wise