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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Grantmakers Forum Names Laurie Liles as Chief Executive Officer

*Former Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association Executive to
Lead AGF's Focus on Building Strong Statewide Presence and
Expanding Arizona Philanthropic Sector's Capacity*

Phoenix, Ariz. (May 26, 2015) – The Arizona Grantmakers Forum Board of Directors today announced that **Laurie Liles** will become the next president and CEO of Arizona Grantmakers Forum, effective June 1, 2015.

Liles brings more than two decades of association leadership and advocacy experience to AGF and previously served as CEO of the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association. Prior to assuming that role, she was AzHHA's senior vice president of public affairs and led the association's state and federal advocacy efforts for 19 years. Liles began her career working on the research staff of the Arizona House of Representatives and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Northern Arizona University. In December 2014, she earned a master's degree from Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

“We are thrilled to have Laurie take the helm of AGF. Arizona is facing a critical juncture in many areas such as education and healthcare. Consequently, leadership, collaboration and advocacy are essential to further the work of the nonprofits we grantmakers support,” said Dr. Sandi Perez, board chair of AGF. “We are confident she brings a depth of experience, sage guidance and a powerful voice to this effort that will

make our state stronger.”

“Arizona is blessed with a vibrant philanthropic community, and I am deeply honored to serve the men and women who work every day to improve people’s lives,” Liles said. “I’m excited to collaborate with the board, members and staff as we fulfill AGF’s mission to increase, enhance and improve philanthropy in our state.”

Liles will succeed founding CEO Marissa Theisen, who is leaving AGF after 15 years to return to her management consulting business, Win Win Creations.

About Arizona Grantmakers Forum

Founded in 1999, the Arizona Grantmakers Forum is a regional grantmakers association whose mission is to increase, enhance and improve philanthropy in Arizona.

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