Transitioning to the Finance Director’s Chair

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Understand your words carry more weight

• People look to your position for guidance and stability, now more than ever

• Jokes and fun banter mean something different coming from a Senior Leadership Team member
• Working with staff who are older than you
Continue your learning

- Challenge your self to learn something new to spur your own growth
Find a new sounding board

• People look to your position for guidance and stability, now more than ever

• There are lots of great groups out there such as Propel, The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and the Nonprofit Finance Group
Have confidence in what you know AND what you don’t

• There is value in acknowledging that there are things for you to learn
Keep an open mind to doing things differently

- Be open to learn a new method or approach
- Allowing others to teach you something different is also a form of leadership
Become part of Senior Leadership

• Your role as a Senior Leadership is to direct the organization, not your department

• Listening to all conversations to be prepared to provide the financial impact of decisions
• Think about how who helped you along the way and then give back and pay forward
Work with Board of Directors

• You are more likely then not to be the finance expert in the room

• Knowing when to provide information vs opinions is important
Say “No”

- People look to your position for guidance and stability, now more then ever

- Saying “no” to the CEO/Executive Director
Thank You!