About Trella Walker (short)

Trella Walker has been a servant in the nonprofit sector for over twenty years and is dedicated to sharing knowledge and information to those dedicated to service and leadership. She has worked in nonprofits across a variety of fields including arts and entertainment, youth, social services, education, healthcare, veteran affairs, and law. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education from James Madison University, as well as a Juris Doctor degree from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law.

At Nonprofit Finance Fund, Trella provides nonprofits with data-driven analyses that frames NFF’s consulting guidance in a comprehensive and clear manner. Specific bodies of work include promotion of the full cost work through the Full Cost Project, leading national arts initiatives that provide support and access to organizations that have traditionally been denied access to capital, and supporting continued messaging regarding the learnings garnered from these bodies of work through workshops and writings in the field.

In addition to her work in Advisory Services, Trella is the inaugural leader of NFF’s Social Innovation and Equity Council, a group of enterprise-wide staff members who help provide internal and external support and accountability as NFF forges forward with its commitment to equity in finance and change making in the nonprofit sector.

About Trella Walker (long)

Trella Walker has been a servant in the nonprofit sector for over twenty years and is dedicated to sharing knowledge and information to those dedicated to service and leadership. She has garnered a wealth of experience through the years, and has worked in nonprofits across a variety of fields including arts and entertainment, youth, social services, education, healthcare, veteran affairs, and law. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education from James Madison University, as well as a Juris Doctor degree from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law.

Trella currently serves as a Director in Advisory Services in Nonprofit Finance Fund’s Los Angeles office. As a Director, she provides nonprofits with data-driven analyses that frames NFF’s consulting guidance in a comprehensive and clear manner. Specific bodies of work include team promotion of the full cost work through the Full Cost Project; leading national initiatives like the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation’s Comprehensive Organizational Health Initiative (COHI) with the International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD) that helps provide support and access to organizations that have traditionally been denied access to capital; and supporting continued messaging regarding the learnings garnered from these bodies of work through workshops and writings in the field.

In 2019 *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* published an article co-authored by Trella, her colleague, Claire Knowlton, and Fred Ali (CEO – Weingart Foundation) titled “The Smartest Way to Promote Diversity: Pay for Overhead at Charities Led by People of Color.” This article was focused on advocating for full cost support for organizations, and particularly for organizations led by people of color who have been denied access to large, flexible funding. The three were then again as "Innovators in the Field" for their work on the Full Cost Project in the Chronicle’s December 2019 series. The Full Cost Project continues as a national effort to help funders consider ways to support organizations that result in deeper, more sustainable outcomes.
In addition to her work in Advisory Services, Trella has been selected as the inaugural head of NFF’s Social Innovation and Equity Council (SIEC), a group of enterprise-wide staff members who are dedicated to supporting the organization as it continues to center community-based organizations with equity at the heart of the work being done. This commission will help provide internal support and external accountability as NFF forges forward with its dedication to change making in the nonprofit sector.