

Stephanie R. Hardt, CPA
Principal, Audit Services



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Stephanie is a Principal in the Audit Services practice at Brown Smith Wallace. She has more than 10 years of experience in public accounting and specializes in the construction and health care industries, as well as employee benefit plan engagements.

As a Principal, Stephanie is responsible for planning and leading audit engagements, providing advisory assistance and reviewing audit reports. She leads the engagement planning and transition process, prepares the overall audit plan and works with financial personnel to set and monitor the field work schedule and related timing of deliverables.

In working with clients, Stephanie creates solid, mutually respectful relationships, ultimately increasing the efficiency on both sides of the table through her client service. She demonstrates a proven ability to lead coordination and communication between both the internal team and client teams.

Within Brown Smith Wallace, Stephanie mentors four professionals and is involved in staff development and training in the Audit Services practice. She also plans to take the CCIFP certification exam before the end of the year. Currently, there are fewer than 30 active CCIFP certificate holders in the state of Missouri.

Stephanie's previous experience includes serving as an assistant controller at a public accounting firm. Stephanie is also heavily involved in volunteering for her children's schools, including serving as room mom for her daughter's class.

Cheryl Foster
Director, Practice Growth



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Cheryl is the Director of Practice Growth for Brown Smith Wallace. Cheryl leads the team in developing and implementing the firm's integrated marketing and business development strategies to drive revenue growth and enhance the reputation of the firm.

She played an integral role in the launch of the Brown Smith Wallace Startup Industry group. She presented her experience in launching the Startup Industry niche at the joint Association for Accounting Marketing – AICPA Conference in 2017.

Prior to joining Brown Smith Wallace, Cheryl held marketing roles at Build-A-Bear Workshop®, start-up toy retailer RIDEMAKERZ® and GroupM Search, formerly the search marketing specialist division of GroupM—a WPP company.

She has a diverse marketing background that includes marketing and brand strategy, internal and external communications, media relations, digital marketing, special events, creative development and business development.

Cheryl holds a Bachelor's and Master of Arts degrees from the School of Journalism at University of Missouri—Columbia. She's a board member of the St. Louis Metro Market, a non-profit mobile farmers' market that is restoring access to healthy, affordable food to underserved communities in the St. Louis region. In 2020, she served as co-chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force for the Association of Accounting Marketing (AAM), which developed a strategic plan to support and implement the professional organization's DEI statement. Today, Cheryl continues to serve on the AAM DEI Committee, where she's working to operationalize the DEI task force's recommendations.