

## New leader of YWCA plans to rely on staff

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Natalie Dunn has the usual on her iPhone, including photographs and music.

Sharing space with her favorite pics and tunes is an archive of podcasts about nonprofit management.

Dunn has been downloading all she can about the subject since she joined the YWCA board of directors in December 2007.

The 37-year-old hopes to use some of what she has learned in her new role as executive director of the organization. She replaces Carol Green, who retired after more than six years at the helm.

"I believe I'm prepared," said Dunn, whose first official day on the job is today. "I don't think I have all the answers, and I don't plan to have all the answers. I do believe in using my resources."

She knows her best resources will be the people who work for the YWCA.

"The first thing: I need to sit down with staff and get to understand them, learn from them and get to know what their goals are," Dunn said.

Dunn's passion and vision for the organization impressed the search committee and the board.

"From her service as a board member and her past activities as volunteer for the YWCA Salem Cultural Diversity Conference Committee, Natalie has demonstrated that she is passionately committed to the YWCA's mission of empowering women and eliminating racism," board president Melissa Seifer Briggs said.

Dunn had worked since 2000 for Wachovia, including the past four-plus years in Salem, most recently as a work-force analyst. She relocated from Columbia, S.C., when Wachovia opened its contact center here.

She realizes that there will be challenges to launching her new career in nonprofit management, especially because she is relatively new to the area.

"I told the search committee I am so humbled by the opportunity," Dunn said. "I feel like I want to help this community. This is home."

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### Natalie Dunn

Age: 37

Residence: Keizer

Education: Bachelor of science in history, Charleston Southern University, 1993; Bachelor of science in sports management, University of South Carolina, 1997.

Work EXPERIENCE: Wachovia, June 2000 to May 2009

Of interest: Dunn played golf at Charleston Southern and later tried unsuccessfully to qualify for the LPGA Tour.