Dave Tinker, CFRE, FAFP

Speaker Bio

Dave Tinker, CFRE, FAFP, has worked in fundraising since 1990. His recent focus is a question the profession can no longer avoid: how can fundraisers use AI responsibly while protecting the trust donors place in them? Dave uses AI tools in his own fundraising work every day and approaches the subject as a practitioner.

Ethics has long been central to Dave's professional service. He chairs the education subcommittee of AFP's Member Conduct Committee and previously served on the Grant Professionals Association Ethics Committee. In 2017, he was named to the inaugural class of AFP Distinguished Fellows. He received the Outstanding Fundraising Professional Award in 2013 from the AFP Western PA chapter. He is a certified AFP Master Trainer and a GPA Approved Trainer.

Dave also brings a strong technology background. He holds a Master of Information Strategy, Systems and Technology and taught informatics as an adjunct professor at Muskingum University for more than a decade. He was among the first twenty graduates of Indiana University's Master of Public Affairs with a concentration in Nonprofit Management program.

Dave serves as Development Director at Shepherd's Heart Fellowship in Pittsburgh, which provides transitional housing and a path to independent living for homeless and vulnerable Veterans where they are using AI to scale fundraising. He is also a Special Projects Consultant with GoalBusters Consulting. His volunteer leadership includes the AFP PAC Board and Government Relations Committee, Vice President of the Great Lakes GPA Chapter, and past board president of AFP Western PA.



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