



Anne Sweet

HIRED



What do you enjoy most about being a CFO?

As a CFO of a nonprofit organization, I am challenged daily by new projects. I enjoy working with a diverse staff and applying my professional training to help the organization better meet the growing needs of the community we serve. I enjoy contributing to a dynamic organization that helps people find jobs and lead self-sufficient lives — it is a purpose that I believe in.

What innovative ideas have you brought to your company?

During my tenure at HIRED, I have made improvements to our accounting policies and procedures, increased staff efficiencies by implementing online timesheets, created new budgeting modules and developed a program cost model for strategic decision making and analysis. This cost model helps senior management evaluate the financial impact and the indirect financial impact of our community-based programs.

What is the biggest challenge you face as a CFO?

Nonprofit organizations are constantly being asked to do more with less. HIRED has been on the front lines of today's economic recession — responding to the increased demand of job seekers with very limited resources. As a CFO, I am always looking for ways to maximize our resources, in order to effectively benefit our programs, while balancing the reporting requirements and regulations of our funders.

What's a common misperception about CFOs?

I think we're often perceived as only being about the numbers. While this is a big part of my job, I also relate to the mission of the organization. I feel fortunate to have the responsibility to ensure the financial stability of HIRED so that our organization will continue its good work for many years into the future.

Was math your best subject in school?

No. In high school it was Spanish. In college, I studied psychology (focusing on child development).