Daniel Watt Retires as Executive Director of The Dana Brown Charitable Trust, U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management to Direct in Interim

After four (4) years of executive leadership, Daniel Watt, the first executive director for The Dana Brown Charitable Trust, will be retiring, effective December 31, 2021. Scott Schmid, Senior Vice President, Market Leader for St. Louis U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management and Chair of the Dana Brown Charitable Trust Committee, will work with the grant making committee to review options for next steps with the announcement of Watt’s retirement.

Watt was hired in March 2016 to lead the Trust when a commissioned strategic plan prioritized hiring a part-time executive director. As the executive director, Watt was responsible for performing all duties associated with building relationships, vetting prospective grant recipients, and ensuring evaluations while managing vendors hired for the website and communication management of the foundation. Prior to directing the trust, Watt served as a Senior Vice President of U.S. Bank from 2010 to 2015. U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management is the sole corporate trustee of the Dana Brown Charitable Trust.

“Dan Watt has provided brilliant leadership as Executive Director for Dana Brown Charitable Trust. He established new trust protocols and committed his time in this role to consistent outreach in the St. Louis non-profit community.”, stated Scott Schmid, U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management St. Louis Market Leader, “His efforts and focus had great impact, increasing the diversity of the grant requests, while continuing to keep a laser focus on the spirit of the trust”.

The Dana Brown Charitable Trust honors the legacy of St. Louis’s well-known entrepreneur, philanthropist, and adventurer Dana Brown. When Dana passed away in 1994, he had established The Dana Brown Charitable Trust at Mercantile Trust Company (now U. S. Bank). For the last 26 years, the Dana Brown Charitable Trust has continued Dana Brown’s personal charitable mission to share his self-made fortunes to have a strong positive impact on the St. Louis region. Dana Brown outlined his trust to award grants for St. Louis (MSA based) non-profit organizations that serve those who are least capable of helping themselves: children and animals. For more information about the trust, including the St. Louis area non-profits that have benefited from the trust in the past, please visit the trust’s website at https://www.danabrowncharitabletrust.org/

All inquiries regarding the transition following Watt’s retirement should be directed through the website’s contact form, CONTACT US which will be monitored by Scott Schmid and the U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management’s Dana Brown Charitable Trust Grant Making Committee.