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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Daylight Launches DAF500 Challenge to Help Establish a Stronger Standard for Modern Donor-Advised Fund Advising

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Berkeley, CA — August 1, 2026 — Today, Daylight launched the DAF500 Challenge, a month-long learning sprint inviting the first 500 advisors to complete the [Essentials of Modern DAF Advising Certificate](#) and help establish a stronger standard for modern donor-advised fund advising.

As donor-advised funds have become one of the fastest-growing philanthropic planning vehicles in the United States, advisor education has not kept pace. Modern DAF advising now requires informed judgment across tax planning, governance, family dynamics, sponsor selection, investment management, grantmaking, succession planning, and philanthropic strategy.

The DAF500 Challenge was created to help advisors build that foundation through objective, unconflicted, practitioner-focused education and a shared commitment to stronger professional standards.

"Every advisor who works with philanthropically inclined clients should understand the essentials of modern DAF advising," said Dien Yuen, CEO of Daylight. "The purpose of this certificate isn't to encourage advisors to recommend more donor-advised funds. It's to help them determine when a DAF is the right solution, when another charitable vehicle may better serve a client's goals, and how to exercise sound judgment on behalf of the families they serve."

The Essentials of Modern DAF Advising Certificate reflects Daylight's belief that advisors deserve objective, unconflicted education designed to support sound judgment—not promote a particular charitable vehicle or sponsoring organization. Participants learn not only how donor-advised funds work, but also when they are—and are not—the most appropriate solution.

The self-paced certificate takes approximately two hours to complete and covers:

- The modern donor-advised fund landscape
- Legal and regulatory considerations
- Tax and charitable planning
- Sponsor selection and due diligence
- Investment management and governance
- Grantmaking, succession, and family engagement
- Practical advisor case studies and implementation tools

More than a certificate, the DAF500 Challenge is bringing together the first 500 advisors around a shared standard for modern DAF advising. Participants become part of a growing community of advisors who believe philanthropic planning deserves the same rigor, continuing education, and professional standards expected in every other area of wealth advising.

"Professions advance when practitioners develop shared expectations of competence and commit to continuous learning," Yuen said. "The DAF500 Challenge is about bringing advisors together to build that foundation for modern DAF advising."

The certificate is available at no cost throughout August. Advisors who complete the program will receive a certificate of completion and practical resources they can immediately apply in client conversations.

Registration is now open. Individual advisors and organizations are invited to participate, with firms encouraged to enroll teams to build a shared foundation of knowledge and confidence across their advisory practices.

About Daylight

Daylight equips advisors with the confidence, competence, and cultural dexterity to deliver modern philanthropic planning. Through the Certified Impact Philanthropy Advisor (IPA) program and specialized certificates, Daylight is helping establish the standards, education, and professional community advancing the practice of philanthropic advising.