Chantel M. Rush is managing director of The Kresge Foundation’s American Cities Program. Her work advances the foundation’s efforts to catalyze more effective community and economic development practice that expands opportunities for people with low incomes in American cities.

Chantel manages Kresge’s American Cities Program grantmaking to support: knowledge exchange among community development practitioners; national community development intermediaries; innovative and scalable community development solutions; pioneering research; and city-based dialogues aimed at promoting effective practice and policy. Chantel also stewards the foundation’s place-based work in Memphis, Tennessee and New Orleans, Louisiana.

Chantel joined the foundation in 2015, working as a special assistant to Kresge President and CEO Rip Rapson.

Before joining Kresge, Chantel served as senior analyst of global strategy and business development at Gap Inc. She started her career in management consulting, where her responsibilities included advising both corporate and private equity clients.

A native of Orange County, California, Chantel earned bachelor’s degrees in international relations and Spanish language from Stanford University and a master’s degree in business administration from Harvard Business School. Chantel serves on the boards of the National Housing Law Project, the Greater New Orleans Funders Network and Signal-Return.