

PROFILE | Linda Taggart

Vice President
Development Division



Linda Taggart, a longtime Maryland Public Television producer and veteran public television fundraising executive, is vice president of MPT's Development Division.

Since April 2015, Ms. Taggart has overseen all fundraising efforts at MPT including major and planned giving, individual giving (membership and on-air fundraising), corporate underwriting, digital fundraising, special events and community engagement, and volunteers. She manages a department of 32 full-time employees.

After an eight-year absence, Ms. Taggart re-joined MPT in 2013 as the managing director of the Individual Giving Department. In that role, she became the first person to hold that post within the network's Development Division.

Ms. Taggart's career at MPT began in 1981 when she joined the station as an assistant producer in regional productions. She was promoted to associate producer for State Circle, MPT's long-running public affairs program. In 1987 she became a producer within the unit known at the time as National/International Productions. Programs she worked on included *Wall Street Week With Louis Rukeyser*, *The New Europeans*, *Timeline*, *SeaPower*, and *Happy New Year, U.S.A.*, among others.

Following six years in national productions, Ms. Taggart joined the development and marketing area as executive producer responsible for on-air fundraising, a position she held for seven years before being named senior director of MPT's On-Air Fundraising Department. After five years in that role, Ms. Taggart accepted a similar position in 2005 at WQED Multimedia in Pittsburgh.

Besides MPT, she worked at WBAL-AM radio in Baltimore as a producer of a pair of radio talk shows and at The Catholic Review newspaper as an urban beat reporter. She is an alumna of the S. I. Newhouse School of Communications at Syracuse University, where she earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in television and radio.

Ms. Taggart was selected in 2023 as the C. Scott Elliott Development Professional of the Year, a prestigious PBS award acknowledging her many contributions to development at MPT and across the PBS system. The same year, she was inducted into the Silver Circle of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences' National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter (NATAS-NCCB) for her more than 25 years of industry contributions. Among her other honors is a 2020 Emmy® Award from NATAS-NCCB for her role as executive in charge of production for the documentary *Made Possible by Viewers Like You: 50 Years of Maryland Public Television*.

Ms. Taggart resides in Reisterstown, Maryland.