Deborah James Vance is the Program Director with the Pincus Family Foundation (PFF). Deborah advances and promotes the foundation’s mission of outreaching to potential partners, reviewing funding requests, and providing recommendations to the Trustees as they partner and invest in organizations that support the well-being of children. She manages several program portfolios that focus on improving all children’s outcomes, especially those experiencing the symptoms of under-resourced and underserved communities. Deborah designed the foundation’s Education portfolio that focuses on the funding gap to ensure that students are prepared and ready to access the academic rigor and socioemotional competencies of High School, ultimately honing the tools needed for College and Career Readiness and success.

Deborah joined the Pincus Family Foundation in 2017 after several years in the for-profit, not-for-profit sector and 15 years in education, creating and developing programs that advance educational outcomes in conjunction with the social-emotional learning of the whole child.

She partnered with the School District of Philadelphia to integrate effective behavioral health support programs within District schools to meet the needs of students and their families; collaborated with District partners to design and implement Project U-turn, a program that supports re-engagement of high school-aged students. Later, as Co-Deputy for the School District of Philadelphia, Deborah worked interdepartmentally to align a multi-tiered framework of student support and intervention to meet all students' academic and social-emotional needs in grades K-12. She partnered with child-serving departments of the City of Philadelphia and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to assist its children.

Deborah holds a Juris Doctor from Temple University's Beasley School of Law (Go Owls!) and is a proud HAWK of St. Joseph's University, where she earned both a B.S in Business Administration, Marketing, and M.Ed. in Education Leadership. Most importantly, she is a mother, daughter, sister, and friend to those working to create wholeness in our communities.