

I'm an AFP member because . . .

. . . of its tremendous networking and continuing education opportunities, but more importantly because of the moral support I receive from others in my profession. While a member I have been employed, laid off, seeking new employment and employed once again. During each phase, I have found that the support I receive from those who share my profession of fundraising has been invaluable. Also, whenever I have faced a difficult or challenging work situation, AFP friends have helped me by offering advice, resources, etc. I greatly value my membership in AFP. — **Karen Yarbrough, CFRE, Director of Development, Christ's Haven for Children**

. . . it's the best place to go for advice from colleagues, news on industry standards and trends and I enjoy the fellowship and friendships I've made through the association. — **Missy Gale, CFRE, President, M. Gale & Associates, LLC**

. . . most of what I've learned about development over the last 20+ years I've learned from AFP speakers and my co-members. And, on days when the work seems difficult and frustrating my AFP colleagues help me be optimistic and energized. — **Jennifer Hawthorne, Development Director, Cancer Care Services**

. . . this organization offers outstanding training and plenty of opportunities to mentor and be mentored. — **Barbara Lundgren, Director of Development, Meals On Wheels, Inc. of Tarrant County**

. . . it helps keep me educated, inspired and motivated to meet the needs of those we serve in our community. — **Bill Flynt, CFRE, Major Gifts Officer, American Red Cross**

. . . there is no greater place and no better opportunity to learn from our peers – all of them experts in their own right who bring not only wonderful knowledge but many friend raising experiences to the table. — **Vinsen Faris, CFRE, Executive Director of Meals-on-Wheels of Johnson and Ellis Counties**

. . . it offers myriad educational opportunities and resources that development professionals absolutely need to comply with best practices. — **Susan Spradlin**

. . . of the wonderful networking and professional development opportunities the chapter provides. I enjoy working with my fundraising colleagues on various projects and learning about their organizations, missions and how they keep all the balls in the air. — **Michelle West, CFRE, Assistant Director of Major Gifts, UNT Health Science Center**

. . . I thought AFP stood for Association of Fun People. Turns out, I was right — **Brian Builta, Grant Specialist, Tarrant Area Food Bank**

Note:

"I thought it stood for Association of Frantic People." — **Christina Judge**

"Fun ... frantic ... fantastic ... frazzled ... fabulous ... pick your word, they all apply." — **Liz Sisk**

. . . I feel the need to grow and to develop professionally in order to best serve my organization in fulfilling its mission. As fundraising professionals, we have a huge responsibility to our organization and to those who support it, to perform ethically, vigorously and fervently in everything we do. We're also in the business of building relationships and I'm very grateful that during my 18 years of membership, AFP has allowed me the opportunity to meet and work beside tremendously dedicated and fun people in this profession. — **Patricia A. (Pat) Miller, CFRE, Director of Stewardship and Development, Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth**

. . . because every meeting is an educational opportunity and that helps me do my work better. — **Betty Stevens, Senior Vice President, Cargill Associates**

. . . it assures access to the best professional connections, education, credentialing and credibility in our industry. — **Trisha Dunbar, CFRE, Director of Development, The Visiting Nurse Association of Texas.**

. . . it allows me to network and share ideas with others in fundraising. — **Katherine Curtis, Annual Giving Coordinator, Cook Children's Health Foundation.**

. . . of the continuing education and learning opportunities about fundraising that it offers. — **Kathy Jo Zeigler, LMSW, Associate Director of Development, Lena Pope Home, Inc.**

. . . it's a fantastic professional network that helps me connect with others in my line of work and offers great learning opportunities on a regular basis. I consider AFP an integral part of my professional development. — **Kristie T. Gibson, Tarrant Area Food Bank**

. . . James Holcomb told me years ago that if I wanted to be a successful fundraising executive, I MUST join AFP. I always do exactly what James says, and WOW, was he ever RIGHT about AFP! — **Lyn Downing, CFRE, Director of Development, Alzheimer's Association**

. . . it shows my employer, donors and colleagues that I am committed to being a good fundraiser. Membership in AFP also provides access for continuing education and networking opportunities offered locally and through the international headquarters. — **Flora Davis, Regional Vice President of Development, American Lung Association**