



AFP Genesee Valley Chapter Announces 2011 Chamberlain Scholar

Melanie Barnas-Simmons of the American Red Cross Awarded Scholarship to Largest Fundraising Conference in the World

Melanie Barnas-Simmons has been named a Chamberlain Scholar by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Foundation for Philanthropy and will be attending the 2011 International Conference on Fundraising in Chicago, IL.

AFP is the largest association of fundraisers in the world and represents more than 30,000 fundraising practitioners across the globe. The AFP Foundation for Philanthropy supports programs and initiatives that help train fundraisers and increase knowledge and awareness of ethical fundraising.

“The opportunity to attend the AFP International Conference will not only benefit five Red Cross Chapters,” says Melanie Barnas-Simmons, “but every organization that touches me in some way, as I will share what I learn with anyone who will listen.”

The AFP Genesee Valley Chapter will also provide \$500 to support Melanie Barnas-Simmons travel and housing expenses at the conference.

AFP’s International Conference on Fundraising attracts more than 4,000 professionals and features more than 150 educational sessions on every aspect of philanthropy. The 2011 Conference will take place in Chicago, IL, March 20-March 22, 2011. Speakers include AFP Genesee Valley Chapter’s very own, Jill Pranger, CFRE and Laura Fredericks, CFRE.

The Chamberlain Scholarship Program honors Ralph Chamberlain, CFRE, a long-time fundraiser and supporter of AFP. Mr. Chamberlain helped to form one of the organization’s first chapters, the Greater New York Chapter and served as both chair of the association and the foundation. Because of his long-time support of the Foundation for Philanthropy, the AFP Board of Directors renamed the Conference Scholar Program in 2000 to honor Mr. Chamberlain’s memory and commitment to the fundraising profession.

For more information, contact Julie Murawski, Chair of the AFP Scholarship Committee at 585-210-4216.

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