

**Sharon G. Miles Professional Development Fund
In Memory of Sharon G. Miles, CFRE**

Sharon Gallagher Miles, a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals for 16 years, gave back to her profession through board service, training and motivating other development professionals to achieve their full potential. She was the ultimate mentor - kind and generous, patient and always willing to give more than she received in return.

Sharon passed away on July 13, 2015, after a private and courageous, four-year battle against cancer.

Sharon served as President of the Greater Wichita AFP Chapter in 2007 and 2008. In 2012, she was named the Fundraising Professional of the year by the Greater Wichita AFP Chapter. Sharon was the consummate development professional raising more than \$13 million dollars during her 16-year career at the Kansas Humane Society, Wichita State University Foundation, Exploration Place and the Wichita Public Library Foundation.

Sharon was a life-long learner and believed in continued professional development. Sharon never stopped learning, she believed every nugget of information was valuable and she was always interested in learning the latest fundraising trends.

Although Sharon had a way of befriending anyone, her greatest gift was her ability to engage with donors to help them achieve the lasting and meaningful change they desired.

Purpose

Funded by her friends, colleagues and community leaders, the **Sharon Miles Professional Development Fund** exists to honor Sharon's legacy. Sharon's dedication and leadership to fundraising will continue to inspire others through an annual award that will recognize an individual's service to the fundraising profession. The **Sharon Miles Professional Development Fund** will provide financial support to a qualifying member of the Greater Wichita AFP Chapter. The scholarship is to be used to increase the recipient's knowledge of and professionalism in fundraising.

Award Guidelines

1. Applicant must be a current member of the Greater Wichita Association of Fundraising Professionals Chapter with three years past membership and regular attendance at AFP professional development programs.
2. Applicant must be consistent in his/her fundraising employment with no more than two positions during his/her past three years of employment.
3. Preference will be given to applicants who have either served on the AFP chapter board or on an AFP chapter committee.
4. Preference will be given to applicants who have served in a mentoring and leadership capacity within the profession.
5. Preference will be given to applicants, who are community volunteers in addition to their AFP service.

Award

The Sharon G. Miles Professional Development Fund will provide a scholarship annually, beginning in 2016. The scholarship provides a \$500 award to be used for professional development in fundraising. This may include local, regional or national fundraising conferences, studying/testing for CFRE exam, or tuition reimbursement for courses in fundraising or a related field at an accredited institution.

Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the service provider or may be reimbursed to awardee with proof of paid fees and must be used within the 12 months following the award.

The Sharon G. Miles Scholar will be announced at the Greater Wichita AFP Chapter National Philanthropy Day Celebration held each year in November. The winner will be notified by November 1 and should plan to attend the National Philanthropy Day luncheon.

During his/her year as the Sharon G. Miles Scholar, applicant must agree to provide at least one written article to be published in the Greater Wichita AFP Chapter newsletter. When appropriate, the Sharon G. Miles Scholar may be asked to participate in a local professional development program.

Submit the completed application via email to:

Association of Fundraising Professionals – Greater Wichita Chapter
Bridget Mersmann
Chapter Administrator, AFP Wichita Chapter
afpwichitachapter@gmail.com
316.285.0671
afpgreaterwichita.afpnet.org

**Sharon G. Miles Professional Development Fund
Scholarship Application
DUE OCTOBER 15**

Personal Information:

Name

Organization

Title

Address

City

State

Zip

Work Phone

Cell Phone

Email

Organization Website Address

Please answer each the following questions, limiting responses to complete this page and no more than two additional sheets.

How long have you been at your current position? (If less than three years, please list employment history for the last three years.)

How long have you been a member of AFP?

Have you served on the AFP board or any committees? Please list.

Have you, with AFP or another organization, served in a mentoring or leadership role? If so please list the organization and your role.

Do you have any other community/volunteer service in addition to AFP? Please list with dates of services.

How do you intend to use the scholarship funds?

How do you anticipate this experience (or experiences) will develop and enhance your abilities as a development professional?