

August 24, 2005

The Treasure Coast Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) is celebrating its 10th anniversary. I want to congratulate the Treasure Coast Chapter and explain the impact it has had on my career and our community.

The first meeting I attended nine years ago was my first exposure to professional fundraisers in our area. I was most impressed with everyone's willingness to share his or her knowledge of fundraising while unhesitatingly welcoming me as a colleague.

Through my membership in AFP, I have received the guidance and education that I needed to advance in the fundraising profession by doing a better job.

The Treasure Coast Chapter of AFP has had an immeasurably positive impact on our community through the work of its members in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River Counties. This work benefits those who receive food, care and shelter from non-profit organizations because of charitable fundraising. This work also benefits many others through the arts, education and historical preservation sponsored by charitable fundraising.

I am proud to be a member of the Treasure Coast Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Our community greatly benefits from this association, which fosters development and growth of fundraising professionals while promoting high ethical standards in the fundraising profession.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Ares Royster, Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE)
Director of Development
Council on Aging of Martin County, Inc.
1071 E. 10th Street
Stuart, FL 34996

P.S. I recently presented a fundraising workshop at the annual Florida Council on Aging Conference in Orlando. I never thought I would be doing something like this at a state conference. Yet, it is just one more example of how much I have learned from my association with good people doing good works.