The AFP Southern Arizona Chapter has a membership of just over 180 individuals, representing a comprehensive mixture of fundraising and allied professionals. The chapter meets once a month with attendance of 45-75, depending on the program. The fundraising professionals in our chapter are very supportive of one another. Nancy E. Jones is the Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) chair, a member of the chapter board of directors and is also a member of AFP YIP Task Force, and the Curriculum workgroup.

Q. Tell us about your youth in philanthropy program. What do you do each year to engage youth in philanthropy?

A. Our YIP program has been in existence for over 15 years. Traditionally, programs are held in the public schools with some faith based programs. With a change in funding to support education, some public school programs have languished this year and our
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CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

(Continued)

commitee is seeking other arenas for programming including community or neighborhood centers with youth programs, private school programs, etc. The programs are student driven with adult facilitation, the fundraising professionals engaged to support the program instructors (teachers). The preferred curriculum components include: fostering youth awareness of community issues, philanthropy and the common good; youth selecting charities to support through a youth-based, democratic funding and decision making process (which includes an RFP-process); youth raising funds for their selected charity(ies)/causes; arranging opportunities for youth and families to volunteer at the charity of choice; providing youth with site visits/field trips to organizations that have applied for funding; presenting funds raised to grantees, and the reporting back to students by the charity on use of the gift and its impact. Matching and seed monies are provided in a declining scale over the first three years of each program, allowing each group the opportunity to institute a self-sustaining program during that period.

Q. Many AFP Chapters want to start a YIP program, but find it challenging to develop and maintain consistent leadership for the program. Can you tell us what best practices your chapter uses to manage the leadership of YIP programs from year to year?

A. Traditionally, we recruit the leadership with a commitment of at least two years service. Each chair is responsible in the second (or third) year to identify and groom the next chair. Ongoing recruitment for the committee helps keep the membership at 7-8 members.
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DID YOU KNOW?

Last year, 61 AFP chapters were involved in some activity that supports Youth in Philanthropy?

Will your chapter help to increase that number this year?
Q. An additional challenge for many chapters is the ability to dedicate the needed resources and time to a YIP program. How has your chapter managed to address making your YIP program a priority? How does your chapter decide how to allocate resources i.e. money and people to the YIP program each year?

A. Within the past four years, funding for this program has been provided by a youth development grant from United Way and a grant from Every Voice in Action, a local non-profit dedicated to giving youth a voice in community issues. The board of directors has recognized the value of the program and has allocated $2,000 annually as well. Each year the program is spotlighted at the National Philanthropy Day luncheon, and in 2008, our 20th year, we instituted a YIP award among our NPD awards. The chair of YIP sits on the board of directors and the NPD committee as part of their commitment to the program.

Q. Where do you go for information regarding youth in philanthropy for your chapter?

A. On the internet, and by going to the Learning to Give (www.learningtogive.org) site and other online resources. Because of the duration of the program, many of the resources we use are internal and are shared from program to program.

Q. What advice would you give to other AFP chapters who want to start or expand their chapter's youth in philanthropy program? Please share a favorite resource or tip for other chapters.

A. Be realistic, start slowly with a pilot program. Recruit volunteers with 2-3 year commitments at the least to develop with consistency.

The mission of the YIP Task Force is to help chapters and the profession involve youth in philanthropy.