

AFP DIVERSE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM Get Involved Today!





Diversity is the seeking and achieving of a broad representation of experiences, perspectives, opinions and cultures. Inclusiveness is an essential source of vitality and strength for the effective pursuit of an organization's mission.

AFP's *Diverse Communities in Fundraising* Program allows various self-identified groups to create communities within AFP both online and in person to network and learn from one another. The program provides opportunities for members from diverse backgrounds to connect with one another while remaining part of the overall association as a whole. Current diverse community groups include:

- * **African American** Community of Fundraising Professionals
- * **Asian** Community of Fundraising Professionals
- * **Faith-Based** Community of Fundraising Professionals
- * **GLBT** Community of Fundraising Professionals
- * **Hispanic** Community of Fundraising Professionals
- * **Jewish** Community of Fundraising Professionals
- * **Rural** Community of Fundraising Professionals

The Diversity section of the AFP website is the go-to area for a wide range of research and articles on inclusiveness and diversity, including:

- * ***Kaleidoscope*** – an e-newsletter that covers a wide range of topics that spotlight new trends and spark thought-provoking discussion on current diversity issues. 
- * ***Te Informa*** – an e-newsletter that features stories related to fundraising ethics, best practices and current research related to fundraising in Latin American countries. 
- * Research Papers and Diversity Essays covering traditions of giving, philanthropic motives of America's diverse ethnic and culture groups, and more...
- * **Chapter Diversity Resource Guide** - available only to AFP members; assists Chapters in planning and achieving chapter diversity objectives.
- * Information on the **Charles R. Stephens Excellence in Diversity Award** which honors the year's most outstanding demonstration by AFP chapters of leadership, creativity and initiative in building diversity in membership or programming.
- * Links to relevant websites
- * Access to Diversity Discussion Groups

DISCUSSION TOPIC GROUPS

One of the benefits of the *Diverse Communities in Fundraising* Program is the availability of creating and/or participating in a Discussion Topic Group for diverse communities.

Each diverse community with at least 25 AFP members has an online Discussion Group. AFP Discussion Groups are two-way discussion lists, and are for members only. These lists are used by group members to communicate back and forth about the various list topics. The lists are not moderated. Users can choose to receive messages as they are posted or as a daily digest.

How to Join a Discussion Topic Group

AFP members must sign up for the group(s) themselves by logging into the Member Gateway of the AFP website. In addition to the seven diverse community discussion topic groups, topic groups are available for a variety of topic areas, such as careers, ethics, Internet fundraising, and public policy. You can sign up in any or all groups, and feel free to encourage others to do the same. Once you have signed up, you can post or read messages. Whenever you post a message, it is posted to the entire group.

To Sign Up – First log into the AFP website as a member. Then go to the yellow **Login** button at the top of the blue navigation column and follow the instructions. Then go to the **Discussions** link in the green navigation column on the right side of the page. In the center field, scroll down to the "AFP discussion lists" section, where you can choose your discussion group or groups. Select one or more, and hit the **Submit** button.

Select Message Type – You can choose to receive your messages “as posted” or “digest”. If you choose your messages as posted, you'll get them as soon as they are sent. If you choose digest, you'll get them collected into one email the next day.

To Unsubscribe – Simply follow the instructions at the bottom of your last email from the discussion group. You'll be unsubscribed automatically.

FORMING A NEW DIVERSE COMMUNITY

To form a new Diverse Community in Fundraising, the following steps are required:

1. Three or more AFP members who have identified a need for a Diverse Community can contact the AFP Diversity Program to request that an item be posted on the website soliciting others interested in forming the group.
2. Once 25 members of that Community have been identified, an online discussion group will be formed.
3. Additional services and support will be provided as groups grow in number (starting at 100 members). These will include Affinity Networking Sessions at the International Conference, links to relevant websites and other benefits.

If you are interested in forming a community, please e-mail Lori Gusdorf at lgusdorf@afpnet.org.