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Association for Healthcare Philanthropy Recognizes Marlene Spalten with Highest Distinction – the AHP Fellow

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 20, 2011) -- The Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP) will present Marlene Spalten of Baptist Health Foundation, Jacksonville, Fla., with the "Fellow in AHP" (FAHP) medallion at a ceremony Oct. 20 in Boston during the association's annual international conference.

Ms. Spalten earned the FAHP status based on her outstanding career record and after passing rigorous oral and written examinations as a development professional in the health care field.

"Elevation to the status of Fellow in AHP is the highest level of achievement in the field of health care philanthropy," said William C. McGinly, Ph.D., president of the association. "Conferring of the Fellow designation is not so much an award as it is recognition of individual professional distinction, well earned through dedication and continual self-advancement."

Marlene Spalten is vice president and executive director of the Baptist Health Foundation where she oversees fundraising for Baptist Health, a system of five hospitals including Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville.

Spalten has more than 20 years of fund development experience in both education and health care. She was formerly associate head of school/advancement and planning at The Bolles School and has held volunteer positions in professional organizations including the Southeast Regional Cabinet of AHP and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Ms. Spalten, who is a certified fundraising professional (CFRE), served on the International Job Analysis Task Force in developing a certification examination program for CFRE International, which administers a voluntary accreditation system for professional fundraisers.

Spalten is a member of the Rotary Club of Jacksonville, the United Way's Women in Local Leadership (WILL), the World Affairs Council board of directors and Pine Castle board of directors, and is a member and past chairman of the board of directors of the Non-Profit Center of Northeast Florida.

AHP is dedicated to the advancement of nonprofit health care institutions and organizations through the enhancement of its members' performance and professionalism. The association sets professional standards for health care development officers, offers comprehensive educational programs to help them achieve those standards, and examines them to determine who meets the standards. Professionals who successfully complete the Fellow written and oral examinations earn the designation Fellow of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy.

Successful applicants must have earned the Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE) designation, have at least eight years of experience in raising and managing philanthropic funds for a health care organization, and pledge in writing to adhere to the AHP Statement of Professional Standards and Conduct and to uphold the AHP-endorsed Donor Bill of Rights.

Established in 1967, AHP's more than 4800 members direct philanthropic programs in 2,000 not-for-profit health care providers throughout North America.

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