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St. Petersburg Fundraiser Elected Vice Chair of Association for Healthcare Philanthropy

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 20, 2011 –Emily H. Benham, FAHP, CFRE, vice president of development for Bayfront Health Foundation in St. Petersburg, Fla., has been elected for a second term as vice chair for education and certification for the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy's (AHP) 2011-2012 board of directors. AHP represents more than 4,800 executives of philanthropic programs across North America supporting not-for-profit hospitals, clinics, health systems and related facilities..

Bayfront Health Foundation supports Bayfront Medical Center, a major trauma and teaching hospital serving St. Petersburg and West Central Florida.

A professional fundraiser for more than 20 years, Ms. Benham is a Fellow of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (FAHP) and a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). She joined the Bayfront Health Foundation in 1995, after serving as director of development for the Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami, the Florida Orchestra, and American Stage Theatre Company in the Tampa Bay area.

An active member of AHP since entering the health care philanthropy field in 1995, Ms. Benham has served on the association's regional cabinet for eight years and was vice chair for regional affairs. She is past regional director for the AHP Southeast region.

A native of Reading, Pa., she earned her bachelor of arts in music from Amherst College in Amherst, Mass. She is married to James Connors, principal cellist of The Florida Orchestra, and they are parents of a 12-year-old son, Joshua.

The Association for Healthcare Philanthropy, established in 1967, is a not-for-profit organization whose members direct philanthropic programs for 2,000 nonprofit health care providers. The hospitals, health care systems and related facilities for which AHP members raise charitable funds provide essential, comprehensive medical services to their communities, as well as wellness programs, mobile health vans, mammography screenings, hearing and eye exams, and other community-based health care services.

AHP members include fundraising professionals, development staff, public relations professionals, trustees, marketing specialists, administrators and executives interested in health care fundraising. To learn more, visit <u>www.ahp.org</u>.