

# NEWS

## Association for Healthcare Philanthropy

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### **Association for Healthcare Philanthropy Recognizes Cunningham with Highest Distinction – the AHP Fellow**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**, (October 25, 2012) – The Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP) recognized Rhonda Cunningham of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation in Cobourg, Ont. for achieving the AHP Fellow designation (FAHP). Cunningham is in the 38<sup>th</sup> class of Fellows to be honored.

Elevation to the status of Fellow in AHP is the highest level of achievement in the field of health care philanthropy. 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.

Rhonda Cunningham, FAHP, CFRE, joined the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation as a staff member in 1995 and was appointed to executive director in 1997.

Cunningham is also a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), a designation she earned in 2003. She has helped raise over \$31 million in support of the Northumberland Hills Hospital, including a successful capital campaign of \$15.6 million to build and equip a new hospital for Northumberland. Cunningham has extensive experience serving her community as a volunteer, most notably with Trinity United Church, the Cobourg Community Centre, Habitat for Humanity Women Build and the Lakeshore Bullets Sledge Hockey Association. In addition, Cunningham also has served as membership chair for AHP Canada from 2006-2011 and is currently education chair.

The Association for Healthcare Philanthropy is dedicated to the advancement of health care institutions and organizations through the enhancement of its members' performance and professionalism. To this end, AHP 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 those standards. Professionals who successfully complete the Fellow examination earn the designation "Fellow of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy," or FAHP.

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. To achieve the status of Fellow, applicants must pass a written and oral exam.

AHP, established in 1967, is a not-for-profit organization whose 5,000+ members manage philanthropic programs in 2,000 of the nation's 3,400 not-for-profit health care providers.

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