

# NEWS

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## Association for Healthcare Philanthropy

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### **Association for Healthcare Philanthropy Recognizes Randy A. Varju with Highest Distinction – the AHP Fellow**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** (October 20, 2011) -- The Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP) will present Randy A. Varju of Advocate Health Care, Park Ridge, Ill., with the “Fellow in AHP” (FAHP) medallion at a ceremony Oct. 20 in Boston during the association’s annual international conference.

Varju earned the FAHP status based on his 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.”

Varju, who is president and chief development officer of the Advocate Charitable Foundation for Advocate Health Care, has served the not-for-profit sector in development roles for the past 26 years. His career started in the human services sector with Easter Seals and then United Way. He later transitioned to higher education in institutional advancement with Lewis University. In 1999, he moved to the health care sector by joining Advocate Charitable Foundation as vice president for development for South Suburban Hospital.

In 2002, he transitioned to Advocate Christ Medical Center and Hope Children’s Hospital as the vice president of development. For the last six years, he has served as the executive development officer for the Advocate Charitable Foundation, leading the site development efforts for the Advocate Health Care system of 10 hospitals and two children’s hospitals. In January of 2011, he additionally took on the role of interim president and chief development officer of the foundation and was formally named to the role on October 1st.

Advocate Health Care, is the largest fully integrated health care delivery system in Illinois with 3.7 million patient visits annually. It has been named one of the nation’s top 10 health systems based on clinical performance according to Thomson Reuters.

Varju is active in both the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and AHP. He currently serves on the board for AFP’s Chicago Chapter and serves as faculty for AFP’s First Course in Fundraising. He also is currently a track dean for the AHP International Conference. He has an

MBA from Lewis University, a bachelor's degree in marketing from Illinois State University, and became a certified fundraising executive (CFRE) in 1990.

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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