



ASSOCIATION OF
DONOR RELATIONS
PROFESSIONALS

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

is hereby presented to

Chelsea Poch

The Association of Donor Relations Professionals (ADRP) Volunteer Service Award recognizes a current member of ADRP who, through current and cumulative efforts, has generously contributed their time and energy to advance the mission of the Association and the profession. Nominees may be visible, or work “behind the scenes;” they may have done something that made others go “wow” or worked quietly over time, following through with commitments, and achieving results. This award will be presented each year, at the annual conference. The ADRP Volunteer Service Award recipient is selected by the awards committee of the ADRP Board of Directors.

It is my great honor to announce this year’s Association of Donor Relations Professionals (ADRP) Volunteer of the Year, Chelsea Poch.

Volunteers are the foundation of ADRP. From our earliest beginnings in 1990 through our formal incorporation in 2004 to today, volunteers lead our organization with a shared vision to elevate the field of donor relations. As Co-Chair of the Volunteer and Member Experience Committee, Chelsea stands at the helm, guiding new and seasoned volunteers to paths that energize and excite them – and growing and sustaining a pipeline of donor relations professionals who want to give back to the profession and their peers. Chelsea is also dedicated to ensuring members have positive and engaging experiences with the organization, and she is always looking for creative and meaningful ways to recognize volunteers for their contributions.

Chelsea is **purposeful**. She is that colleague whom others immediately say, “She’s got this.” What really stands out about Chelsea is that she is both visionary and practical. As she stepped up to lead ADRP’s Volunteer and Member Experience Committee, it was clear she did so with intention and forethought, knowing the importance of the role and how ADRP thrives because of our volunteers. Yet, she also understands that sometimes, you have to clear the slate to move forward. And so she did, working with her committee to eliminate the backlog of volunteer applications and setting up a transitional system to keep it moving forward.

Chelsea is the embodiment of **grace**. Her calm, thoughtful demeanor eases everyone around her. When something is challenging or difficult, Chelsea is the type of person to stop, breathe, and then regroup, rallying her colleagues and fellow volunteers to the cause. She is an expert in diplomacy, both in recognizing limits and capitalizing on strengths, and because of this, she has overcome obstacles that once seemed impossible.

Chelsea exudes **empathy**. To volunteer is to give one’s time and talent to a meaningful cause, and yet it is also a delicate balance of competing priorities. Careers, family, health, and well-being – all take precedence. Chelsea understands this well, and she knows what it means for volunteers to give so much of themselves to ADRP. Her kindness and compassion for others enables her to see the whole person and not only the moments they dedicate to ADRP. Chelsea has a unique gift of making everyone feel validated and heard.

ADRP is fortunate to have such an extraordinarily dedicated leader directing our volunteers. Chelsea, thank you for your service to ADRP, and congratulations on being named our 2023 Volunteer of the Year!

With Gratitude,

Cheryl Lintner, President

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