

How Else Can ALDE Help Me Grow in My Career?

- **Mentoring Program**

Through ALDE's Mentoring Program, you will be paired with an experienced professional with the goal that you and your organization will reach a higher level of expertise in resource development (fundraising, communications, and planning). A mentor program application is available from your chapter's Mentoring Coordinator, the ALDE office, or online at www.alde.org.

- **Certification Preparation**

In an era of growing scrutiny of fundraising, ALDE believes in upholding the highest standards of practice and professionalism. One benchmark indicating that a resource development professional has a thorough understanding of accepted practices is the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) certification. ALDE is a supporting organization of the CFRE Certification Board. Once you have five years of experience in the field, resource development professionals are eligible to apply for certification. CFRE requirements and other certification programs such as the Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) can be found at www.alde.org. Other appropriate certifications and advanced degrees are also encouraged.

- **Professional Reading Material**

ALDE publishes a newsletter, manuscripts of conference presentations, and other resources for your professional growth. These are free with your ALDE membership.

Professional books are available at a discount each year in ALDE's Conference Bookstore. In addition to books written by conference presenters, there are fundraising and communication classics and other recently published books.

- **CDs and DVDs**

Conference presentations are recorded and available for sale at ALDE conferences and through the ALDE website.

For more information contact:



staff@alde.org
800.458.2363
www.alde.org



*Get Your Career
Off to a Great Start!*



Early Career

If you have been in the field of fundraising or communications for less than five years and are committed to growing professionally, ALDE's Early Career Program is for you!

- Learn basic competencies vital to success in your career
- Develop mentoring relationships with experienced professionals
- Take steps today toward professional certification or an advanced degree
- Be recognized for your growth and achievements

What's Involved?

The Early Career Program is ALDE's way of encouraging newcomers to take advantage of a variety of continuing

education programs, become regular readers of professional publications and commit to the highest ethical principles of the profession. The program will also pave the way for early career professionals to begin preparing for an appropriate professional certification or an advanced degree.

Basic Requirements

- Sign the Early Career Report Form indicating that you accept and will abide by ALDE's Code of Ethical Principles and Practices.
- Attend a newcomer orientation session at ALDE's Annual International Educational Conference.
- Attend two or more ALDE International Educational Conferences and participate in at least five core courses.
- Attend an additional ALDE International Educational Conference or a national conference of an organization such as the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), National Committee on Planned Giving (NCPG), or Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). Attendance at a conference more than one year prior to enrolling in ALDE's Early Career Program does not qualify.

- Attend three seminars or workshops offered by an ALDE chapter or another appropriate organization over a period of two years.
- Become a regular reader of ALDE's professional publications and those of other related associations (at least 24 articles in a period of two years). Also, read at least three professional books on resource development or communications.
- Maintain your membership in ALDE.

How Do I Enroll?

Print the online report form or request that it be sent to you. You are encouraged to complete the requirements within two years of enrolling. The report form helps you record your progress toward meeting the requirements.

Your Reward

There will be a certificate and recognition in ALDE News, but the best reward of all is the feeling of accomplishment and the knowledge that you have taken a tremendous step toward becoming all that God has called you to be.

ALDE hopes that you will consider the Early Career Program as just one step in your ongoing career development. ALDE hopes your next step will be to initiate plans to achieve your CFRE or other appropriate professional certification.