Our Development Director Featured in National Publication

Interview highlights importance of bridging cultural barriers

In December, Elaine Voici was interviewed for Korenna, the national magazine for fundraising professionals published by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Here are excerpt…

How many years have you been in fundraising?

I have been at the Foundation for about four years, but, like any for-profit, I have raised money in a volunteer capacity for many years. I learned the importance of being involved in charitable work from my mother. She ran raising money for causes in their area, and it was often a part of our family dinner table conversation.

What achievements are you most proud of in your career?

I have to profess my response with this observation: when you work in an organization that helps people, it seems that more play that work. That has been true for me and I am grateful.

Three achievements that I am proudest of in my career:

• Have been involved in life-changing work from my earliest days as a careers in my present role in the Foundation when giving people back the use of their eyes is our mission. It’s gratifying to be able to contribute to such an important mission.

• Have been able to help the Cornea Research Foundation of America (CORA) to gain national recognition for the work it does. In December, Elaine Voici was interviewed for Korenna, the national magazine for fundraising professionals published by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

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Dr. Elisssandro Lindoso
Follows His Heart to Indianapolis

Brazilian Physician Plans a Year with the Foundation

Born in Sao Luis, a city in the state of Maranhao in northeastern Brazil, Dr. Lindoso grew up under the loving guidance of his father, a small business owner, and his mother. He spent the first 25 years of his life in this city of over a million people known for its cultural Portugese architecture, and graduated from college at the age of 20.

Like many of us, Dr. Lindoso’s values were shaped by his parents. His father had little formal education because he had to go to work when he was only nine years old in order to support a large family of siblings. He wanted more for his only son and daughters, and encouraged them both to get a good education and work in fields that would offer security. Because many of Dr. Lindoso’s uncles had chosen legal advocacy as their career, he was encouraged to follow suit.

Dr. Lindoso’s uncle had chosen legal advocacy as his career, so he was not surprised to follow suit after undergraduate school. Dr. Lindoso was admitted to medical school and was pleased when he found that his future career was one he loved. He learned about new resources, surgical techniques and other exciting advances and became convinced that he would be happier being an ophthalmologist. He has been working in the field ever since.

Studying with Dr. Price and Marianne Price, Ph.D, his godfather, he was first-hand, what it was like, to conduct and publish a clinical research study. He will be in our eyes until the end of 2009 and he finds Indianapolis a “good city, nice place.” He and his wife, Vanessa, have successfully adjusted to life in the United States with two exceptions: they miss beans and rice, one of their nation’s main dishes, and they have learned to see their favorite meat, fish only at buy/parties.

We felt like proud new parents in late December when we received a copy of our new book entitled “DSEK: When you need to know about endolymphatic keratoplasty”. Just like when you held a beautiful baby new in your hands for the first time, the hard work faded away when we opened the book for the first time.

We wanted to make this book different from most medical books that are targeted only to doctors, because we wanted to explain this exciting new procedure in a way that our patients and their families could appreciate as well. Near the beginning, we include interviews with 5 patients who describe their transplant experience first-hand, what it was like, and how it has improved their lives.

This is the first-ever text on this innovative cornea transplant surgery that offers quicker recuperation and a stronger postoperative eye for our patients. We’ve included step-by-step instructions plus a DVD with videos demonstrating various aspects of the surgical procedure. We also collected a wide array of insights and tips from over 500 doctors from most medical books that are targeted only to doctors, because we wanted to explain this exciting new procedure in a way that our patients and their families could appreciate as well.

Every surgery proceeds from the sale of the text will be donated to the Cornea Research Foundation of America’s study of the groundbreaking technique to help us make further advances. The text and accompanying DVD with 20 videos demonstrating various aspects of the surgical procedure costs $115 and is available through Slack Publications.

We hope you will find this book informative and enjoyable, and we would welcome your feedback. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at (317) 814-2993.

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How We’re Having an Impact with Your Support

By Marianne Price, Ph.D.

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Do You Love to Play Golf and Want to Help the Foundation?

June 11, 2009 annual outing at Wood Wind Golf Course is your chance

The Foundation’s 12th Golf Classic being held at Wood Wind Golf Course in Westfield, IN, promises to be another great event for golf enthusiasts. The schedule starts with 11:30 registration followed by box lunches and a shotgun start at 1:00 PM. With beverage carts continuously the links all afternoon, golfers will play 18 holes feeling refreshed. An evening banquet and fabuloussilent auction will complete the day. Individual fees are $175, foursomes are $700. For more information, contact Elaine Voci at (317) 814-2993, and come play golf for a higher purpose!