A record-setting 575 individuals attended the 33rd annual AFP DFW Philanthropy in Action Conference presented by Grant the Good on June 7 at the Irving Convention Center. The conference also set records with 40 exhibitors and the most sponsors involved.

Keynoter Steve Chandler opened the conference by explaining how a shift in our attitudes and thoughts can help create breakthroughs in our organizations’ relationships. He closed the day by offering ways to better manage our time, resources and energy to meet our personal and professional goals. Closing session attendees received complimentary copies of two of Chandler’s best-selling books. You may download four of his eBooks currently posted on the Conference website at dfwphilanthropyconference.com/dfw/program.asp. Many of the session speakers shared their handouts and presentation notes and they are posted for downloading in the same location.

A question-and-answer session was held at lunch with winners of the Young Philanthropists Awards given at the Dallas and Fort Worth Chapters’ National Philanthropy Day Luncheons was inspirational. Scott Murray interviewed Isabelle Adams, Katherine Adams and Will Lourcey whose answers and comments were both humorous and poignant.

A VIP reception the evening before the conference was an opportunity for board members of both the Dallas and Fort Worth Chapters to thank the sponsors, exhibitors and speakers for their support of the conference. Their commitment helps keep the registration fee affordable and allows conference revenue to support future educational opportunities for both the Dallas and Fort Worth Chapters.

Conference Chair Judy Wright of the Greater Dallas Chapter had one final thought before she turns over leadership to Nancy Swartz of the Fort Worth Metro Chapter to begin planning next year’s conference.

“It was an honor to serve as the 2013 DFW Philanthropy in Action Conference Chair. The conference was an excellent source of professional development for fundraisers throughout our region,” said Wright.

If you are interested in serving on the Planning Committee or on a subcommittee, contact Nancy at N.Swartz@sbcglobal.net this summer as preparations for 2014 will begin soon.
Keynote Speaker Steve Chandler spoke at opening and closing sessions at the Conference as well as leading a workshop. He is the author of more than 30 books, a sought-after public speaker and seminar leader and has trained many Fortune 500 companies and nonprofit organizations in communication, sales, fundraising and leadership.

Isabelle Adams, Will Lourcey and Katherine Adams charmed and inspired Conference attendees with their passion for raising awareness and money for those in need.

Nancy Swartz of the Fort Worth Metro Chapter co-chaired with Judy Wright of the Greater Dallas Chapter as chair of the 2013 Conference. Nancy will chair the 2014 Conference.