

Attendees Believe in the Power of Foodservice at ANFP Annual Conference & Expo

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St. Charles, IL - The Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals (ANFP) hosted its Annual Conference & Expo (ACE) from June 1-4 at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld in Orlando, FL. The theme of the conference was "Believe in the Power of Foodservice" and more than 400 attendees participated in four days of

education, networking, and exhibits.

The Keynote Opening Session kicked off the conference. Elisa Hays, CSP, presented the audience with a "crash course" in leadership. Her presentation focused on how to lead by leveraging any adversity with four powerful actions – put others first, get a laugh, ask what if, and focus on feelings.

Education sessions covered a variety of topics including: sustainability, food safety trends, disaster planning, customer satisfaction, dining trends, dysphagia, leadership, and more. Highlights included a panel discussing human resources issues, "Spark Sessions" where attendees gave eight-minute presentations on various topics, and a chef demo.

The Annual Business Meeting & Leadership Recognition Breakfast saw the installation of the 2018-19 Board of Directors for ANFP, including Chair Sharon Vermeer, CDM, CFPP.

The three-hour expo featured more than 50 exhibitors displaying a variety of foodservice products, innovations, and trends. Additionally, ACE exhibitors compiled 452 pounds of food and non-food items from the expo that were delivered to local agencies, via Three Square.

In addition to education and exhibits, there were also networking events including an Opening Reception, Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, and ANFP Honors Gala.

At the ANFP Honors Gala, individuals were recognized with awards for demonstrating the highest level of dedication to the association and foodservice industry. Award recipients are listed at www.ANFPonline.org.

ANFP's philanthropic arm, the Nutrition & Foodservice Education Foundation, hosted its annual fundraising event during the Gala that raised more than \$7,700 for grants, research funding, and other foundation initiatives.

Attendees are already looking forward to next year's Annual Conference & Expo, which will be held June 20-23, 2019 at the Union Hotel in St. Louis, MO.