

## 2017 IFSAP ANNUAL CONFERENCE RE-CAP

Another great IFSAP conference is in the books! This year's conference was held at the Marriott Hotel in Bloomington-Normal.

The conference kicked off with the Weary Traveler's Gathering. Board Director Britta Eggebrecht designed a fun icebreaker game to help members get to know each other.

The speakers were outstanding. Thursday morning started out with Michele Gay. Michele is the co-founder and executive director of Safe and Sound: A Sandy Hook Initiative. Michele lost her daughter, Josephine, in the Sandy Hook School tragedy, and she travels across the country sharing her message of inspiration, recovery, and school safety education and advocacy. Allison Barrett gave an informative presentation on how to create powerful presentations. Allison is no stranger to the fire service. She has been with Lauterbach & Amen since 2002. On Friday, the morning started out with a presentation by Colleen Murphy from the Illinois Peer Support Team. Members of the Illinois Firefighter Peer Support Team seek to contribute and provide ongoing emotional wellness resources that are readily needed in the fire service and for emergency responders. Rita Emmett gave a dynamic presentation on strategies to prevent burnout.

Thursday nights' dinner was followed by entertainment of dueling pianos. The performance brought tremendous energy into the room. They were absolutely fantastic. Lisa Alfaro from Oak Forest, and Eileen Keating from Tinley Park FD did quite the job playing the tambourine!

Many thanks to our conference sponsors and donors. The following conference sponsors donated \$6,100.00 to help pay for different aspects of the conference.

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Additional donors and attendee giveaways were provided by: Bloomington Visitors Bureau, Sue Huiner, Lauterbach & Amen, Medical Reimbursement Service and Municipal Emergency Services.

Members had a wonderful opportunity to win one of the many raffle prizes this year. The raffle raised \$1,070.00. Many thanks to the following donors:

ABT Electronics, Chief Arie, Barrington FD, Aveda Institute, Chicago, Chicago White Sox, CSz Theater, Chicago, David A. Smith & Associates, Eagle Engraving, Inc. The Horton Group, Sue Huiner, Irish Cottage Boutique Hotel, Galena, Kane County Cougars, Lettuce Entertain You, Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, Lynfred Winery, Roselle, Municipal Emergency Services, OneDigital, Paramedic Services of Illinois, Rockford IceHogs, Teddie Kossof Salon & Spa, Northbrook

A special thank you to the conference committee for all of their hard work in putting together a fantastic conference:

Brendaliz Del Valle, Robin Dubiel, Britta Eggebrecht, Janice Gumprecht, Sue Huiner, Colleen Kolber, Jacque McLaughlin, Courtney Sasiadek, Sharon Szynalski and Kristin Wexell.